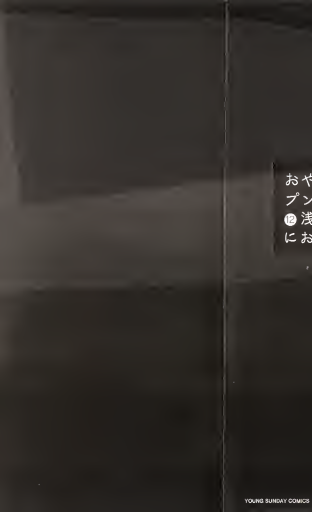

おやすみプンプン ⑫

浅野いにお

YOUNG SUNDAY COMICS

小学館

今、一番おもしろい
YOUNG SUNDAY COMICS

おやすみプンプン　1～12巻――浅野いにお
ソラニン　全2巻――浅野いにお
ほしのふるまち　全7巻――阪本裕一
1ポンドの福音　全4巻――高橋留美子
Dr.コトー診療所　1～25巻――山田貴敏
おしゃれ手帖　全10巻――長尾謙一郎
RANBOW-この力原の心に-　全2巻――安部譲二／増田正浩
鉄拳パーティー　全20巻――ゆうきまさみ
都立水商！　全22巻――宝頭光／猪熊しのぶ
クロサギ　全20巻――黒丸／夏原　武
イキガミ-The Ultimate Limit-　全10巻――間瀬元朗
土竜（モグラ）の唄　1～36巻――高橋のぼる
超奇乳力戦隊ジャバファイブ　全8巻――佐藤まさき
Odds-オッズ-　十1巻――石渡治
さくらんぼジャポローム-クロの冒険II-　全11巻――北崎拓
タナトスむしがらの夢　全8巻――竹熊健二／渡会裕介
との法ちゃ！-満福寺物語遺聞-　1～11巻――河合克敏
ビーチスターズ　全7巻――森尾正博
まつろはめもの-鬼の棲む谷-　全6巻――木根ラサム／偏川光太郎
美果♥ライジング　全5巻――大谷じろう
独心イージス　全6巻――七月鏡一／藤原芳秀
あんころ。-和菓子屋1丁目36番地-　全5巻――万寿大智
GO-ONI　全4巻――秋重　学
ドライブ・ア・ライブ　全3巻――中井邦彦

ヤングサンデーコミックススペシャル

絶頂に効くクスリ-ONE ON ONE-　全15巻――山田玲司
おしゃれ手帖　全5巻――長尾謙一郎

http://comics.shogakukan.co.jp/
にアクセスすると、コミック情報が詳しくわかり、
オンラインショップで購入することもできます。

浅野いにお

1980年生まれ。宮城県出身。
2001年、第1回サンデーGX新人賞入賞。
主な著作に「素晴らしい世界」
「ひかりの速さ」（ともに小社刊）がある。
「ソラニン」（全2巻・小社刊）が
全国より世代・性別を超えた大反響作に。

イラスト・浅野いにお　デザイン・鈴木直＋ベイブリッジ・スタジオ

おやすみプンプン⑫浅野いにお

スピリッツ
YOUNG
SUNDAY
COMICS

おやすみプンプン⑫　浅野いにお

小学館

おやすみプンプン⑫

浅野いにお

YOUNG SUNDAY COMICS

GOOD NIGHT PUNPUN STORY

The Story Until Now

Pegasus, the prodigy who became the first-ever child to pass the Esper Exam, forsees the destruction of the world in a dream when he was 8. After a chance meeting with physicist Wada with an iQ of 300, the two set out on a journey to verify his prophetic dream. Along their journey, they free brainwashed espers through Harmony dimensional battles, and in doing so, Pegasus comes to learn of a great evil born from the coilective unconscious. He also learns he is the descendant of the enlightened one, whose bloodline ailows him to command the Majestic Tweive, warriors tasked with fighting against the impending caiamity.

Despite their efforts, the great calamity escapes into the 25th dimension and Pegasus fails into the abyss of "Enigma." However, thanks to the Majestic Twelve's support, Pegasus is revived and Wada telis him thus:

"We the Majestic 12 wiii use the forbidden treasure *Red Kiss*, which will rob us of our lives but will aiow us to enter the hyper-astral piane and strike at the *great calamity* lurking in the Zero-field."

And thus the finai Harmony dimensional battie begins, upon which the fate of humanity hangs...

CHARACTER

Pegasus

The enlightened commandered of the Majestic Twelve.
Ability: Future Predicion, Mind JACK

Wada (Sweet Pretty Lonely Fluffy Bro)

Genius physicist and former captain of the Royal Guards in the Eastern Kingdom.
Ability: Super-Intellect

Pao Pao Channel

A former wanted-thief.
Has since become a hacker since his seclusion.
Ability: Mongolian Death Arm

Echo-Back

Formerly the investigator who pursued Pao Pao Channel.
Ability: Telekinesis

White Pig

The princess who was confined for 10 years in the Altai Heinlicht
Ability: Noble Blood Barrier

Contrary

An express courier that travels throughout the world. The second oldest of the three Jet Brothers.
Ability: Super-speed

Freezle

An orphan from the bottomless village. Has the strongest secret ability out of all the Majestic 12.
Ability: Climate Change, Projectile Summoning

Having-one-battery-left-over-is-troublesome

A martial arts expert who revived from a near-death state after the great war of 1000 years ago.
Ability: 88 techniques of the Qigong Praying-Mantis style

Weekly Big Comic Spirits

The captain of the New Nessie Armed Fleet of the Far Lands.
Ability: Solemn Wind (Mokele-mbembe)

Pussy Princess

A refugee from the ongoing turmoil of the Tsuchinoko Empire.
Ability: Unlocking keys

Love Infinite

Though he works as a clown for the Paranormal Troupe, he's the son of the distinguished heir of the Mothman Foundation's founder.
Ability: Shape-shifting, intel-gathering

Ass Hamburger

A female high school student who lost her memories after becoming possessed by a cursed sword. She is on the search for her family.
Ability: Wild-Hammer Slash

Goordian Angel Giboboigi

A female ronin-swordsman. 90% of her body had to be rebuilt with machines after her defeat at the hands of Black Spot.
Ability: Lv. 3 Cosmic Beam

Black Spot

A mysterious woman who opposes Pegasus and his followers. She was once an ordinary civilian before becoming possessed by the collective unconscious

Great Calomity

The great demon who was sealed in the climax of the last great war. He currently lurks in the 25th dimension, plotting for humanity's destruction

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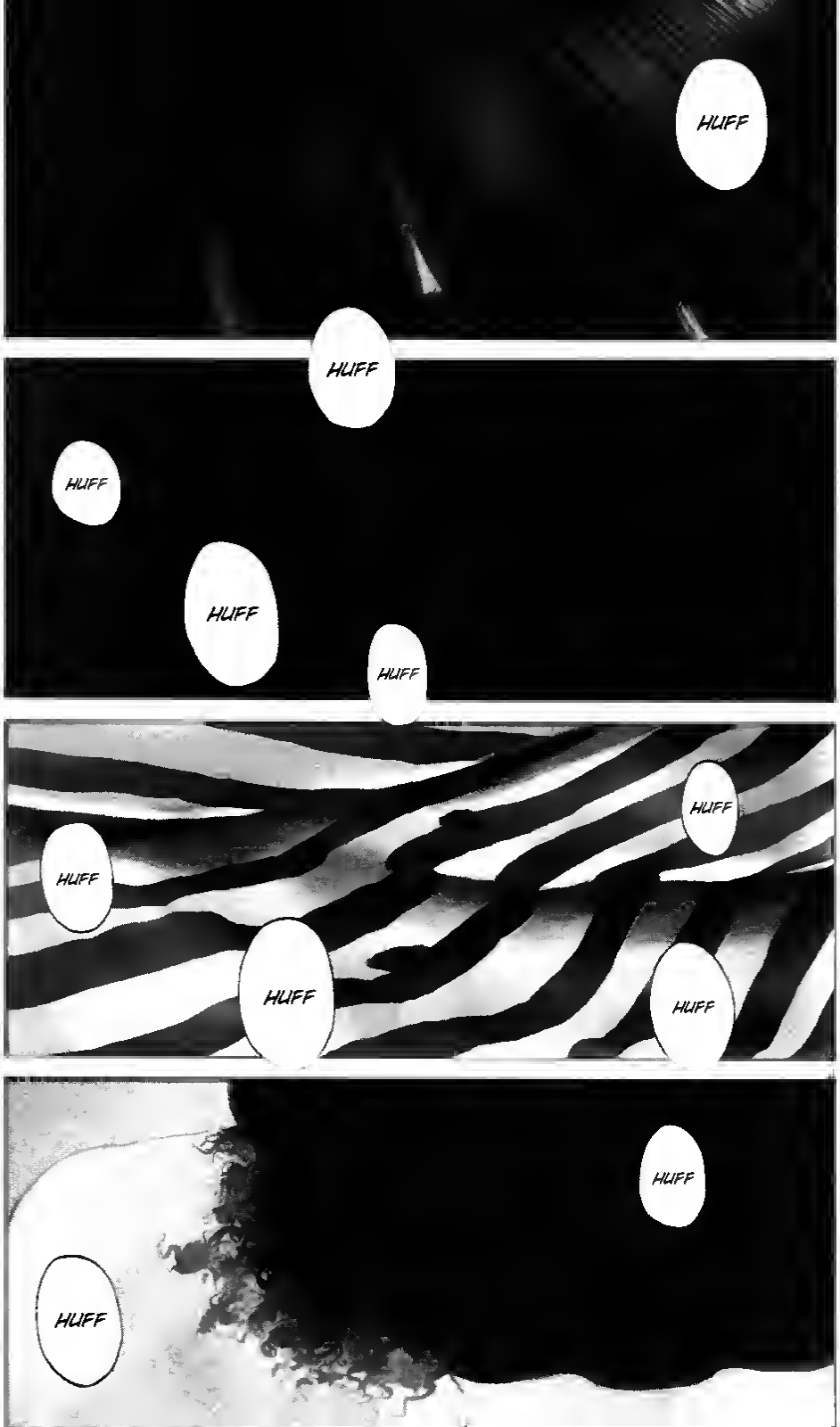
HUFF
HUFF
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HUFF
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HUFF
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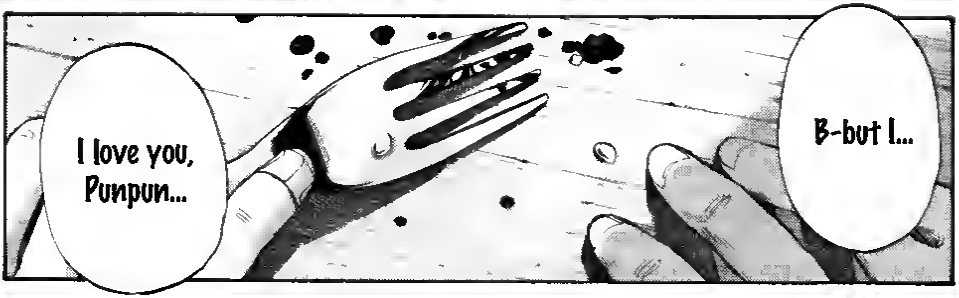
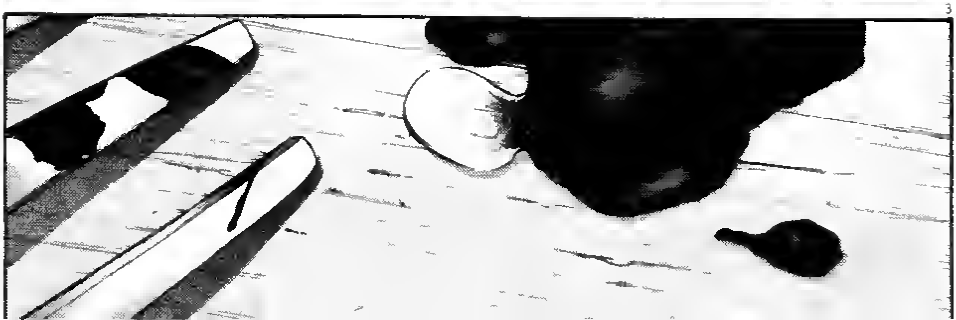
HUFF
HUFF

GASP
HAH
HUFF...
HUFF...
HUFF...
GASP
HAH...

HUFF,
HUFF,
H...
HAAAH...


I love you, Punpun...
B-but I...

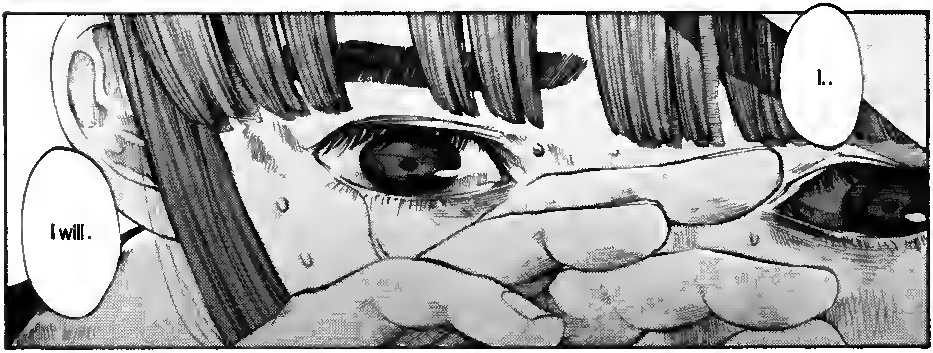
So, so, so much...
I love you,
So, so,

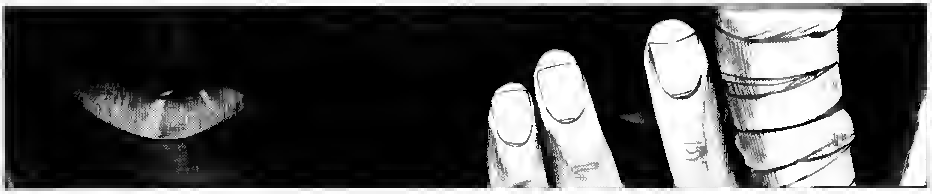


AAHHH!
I...
I love you...
Kitchen
Demi-gla
SNIFF
SNIFF
UU...

"...Aiko. This kind of half-assed determination won't do."

"I'm prepared to accept every last thing about you so you've got to show me the same determination. Enough to drive this fork all the way to the back of my skull."





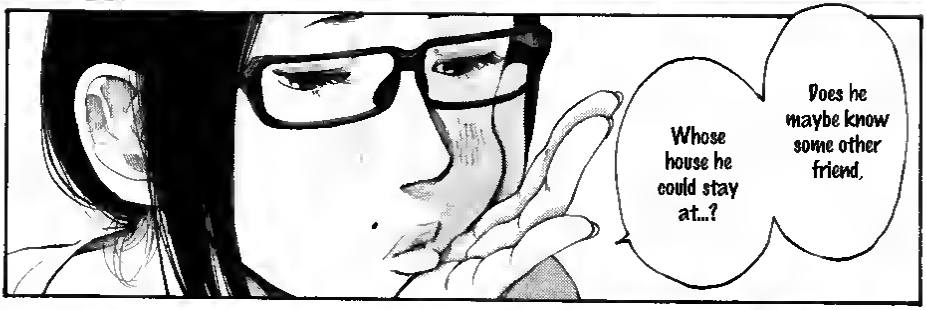
"...You've got to be more serious, Tanaka Aiko."

6

'Sup, Nanjou!
Mimura has arrived on the scene!
Chupa Chupa Haha!

...Yeah, same here.
I heard about the situation between you two from Kanie but...

I've already had no luck in searching for him in the usual places
The video-rental shop, landlord's place, convience store, game centers, home appliances & electronic stores... Everywhere, man.
Yeah, I've looked around those places too.


Does he maybe know some other friend,
Whose house he could stay at...?

He ain't got any real friends other than you and me.
Who'd even try to call him?
Not surprising when you consider his personality.
I mean, who doesn't go around carrying a cell phone in this day and age?

Uhh...
He pretty much hasn't kept in touch with any of our old high school pals...
Let's be real now. This is Ono-D we're talkin' about.

Yeah...
...You're right.
Not sure if I passed him by,
But I know for sure he was in his room 3-4 days ago.
You're worryin' too much.
You know he likes playing the whole lone-wolf card.
So how long's it been since you last talked with Ono-D?
Hmm...
I just have a very bad feeling about all this.
Mimura,
Did Punpun say anything odd to you recently?
No, not really...
Though to be honest, I haven't talked with him much as of late since I've been busy with school and applying for jobs...

And besides, Nanjou.

Aren't you the one.
That he's opened up the most to?

It might sound a lil' corny but I really do feel somethin' special between you two.
Like a hard, unbreakable bond.

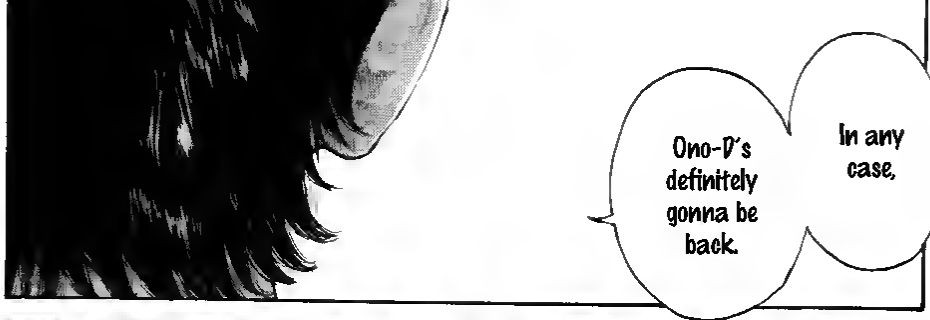
...I know I've asked once before,
But why aren't you two going out?
Haha. Us, a lovey-dovey couple after all that's happened? Cut it out.
Well, even the hardest of things can shatter when one little crack appears....

...You know, Nanjou, you're surprisingly girly at times.
Shut up.

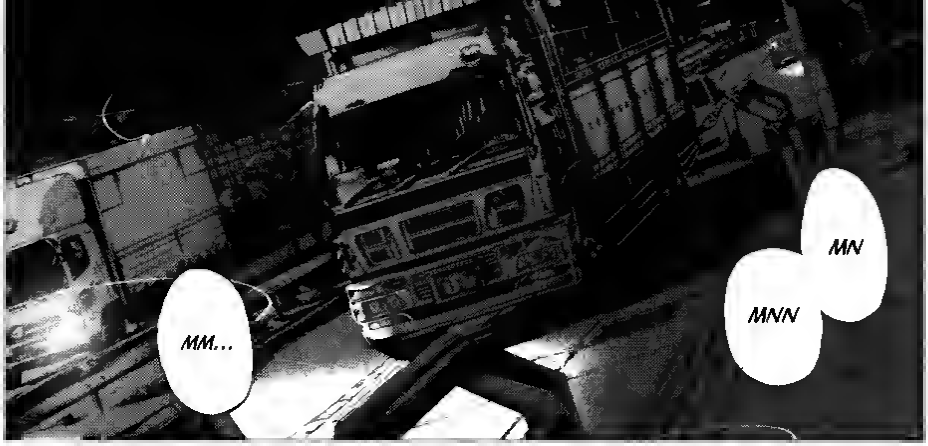
Well...
I'm sure he'll be back.
Even he must have times when wants to be alone, you know.
You speak of your friend almost like a stranger...
It's because he's my friend.
It's not like he'd suddenly show up just because I started frantically looking for him, you know.
I believe him.
Or rather, I don't have a choice but to believe in him.
Even if he were to come back from Thailand with a sex change, I wouldn't bat an eye.
That's just the kind of relationship we have.
I respect his aloof solitude.
But he's he and I'm me. Just because we're friends doesn't change the fact that we go our own separate paths.

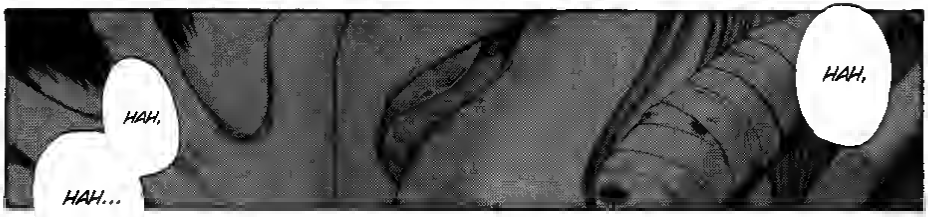
Mimuraaa!
I see...
I don't think I can just stand waiting around though...
To be honest, your concern for him seems less because of your niceness
But more because you want to stubbornly protect your pride.
But you know,
I think you're just fine the way you are now, Nanjou.

But I do think that when Ono-D comes back,
You should be more honest with your own self.


In any case,
Ono-D's definitely gonna be back.

I've got no intention of letting all the fun times I've had with him,
become just a mere memory of days gone by.


MM...
MN
MNN

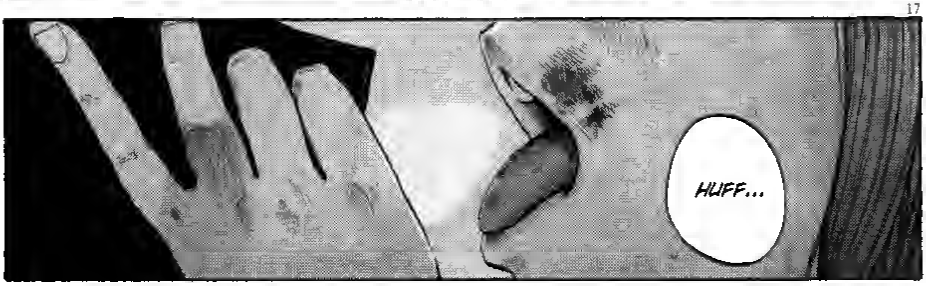

HAH,
HAH,
HAH...

MN...

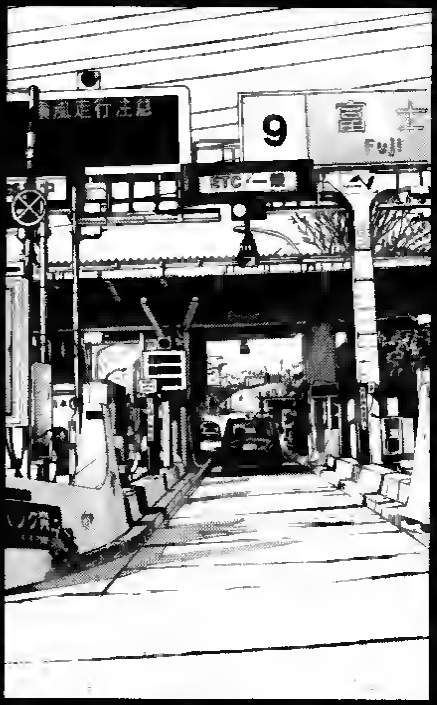
AHHN...

No...
HAH...
HAH...
I'm on my period...

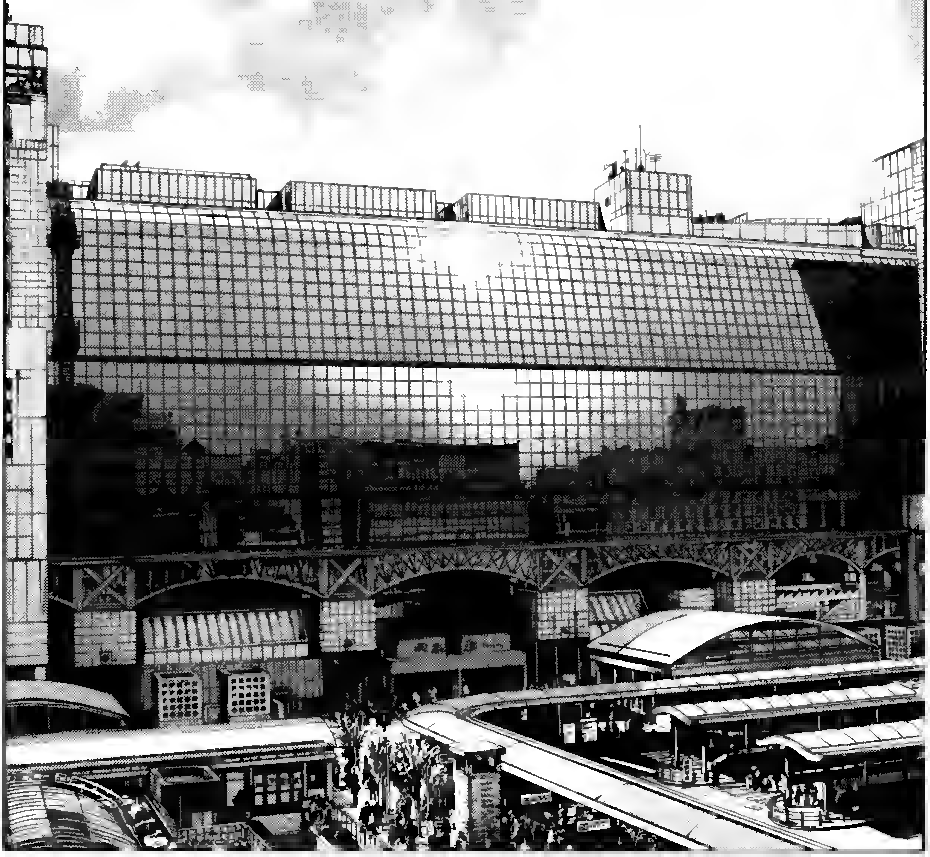
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF


HUFF...

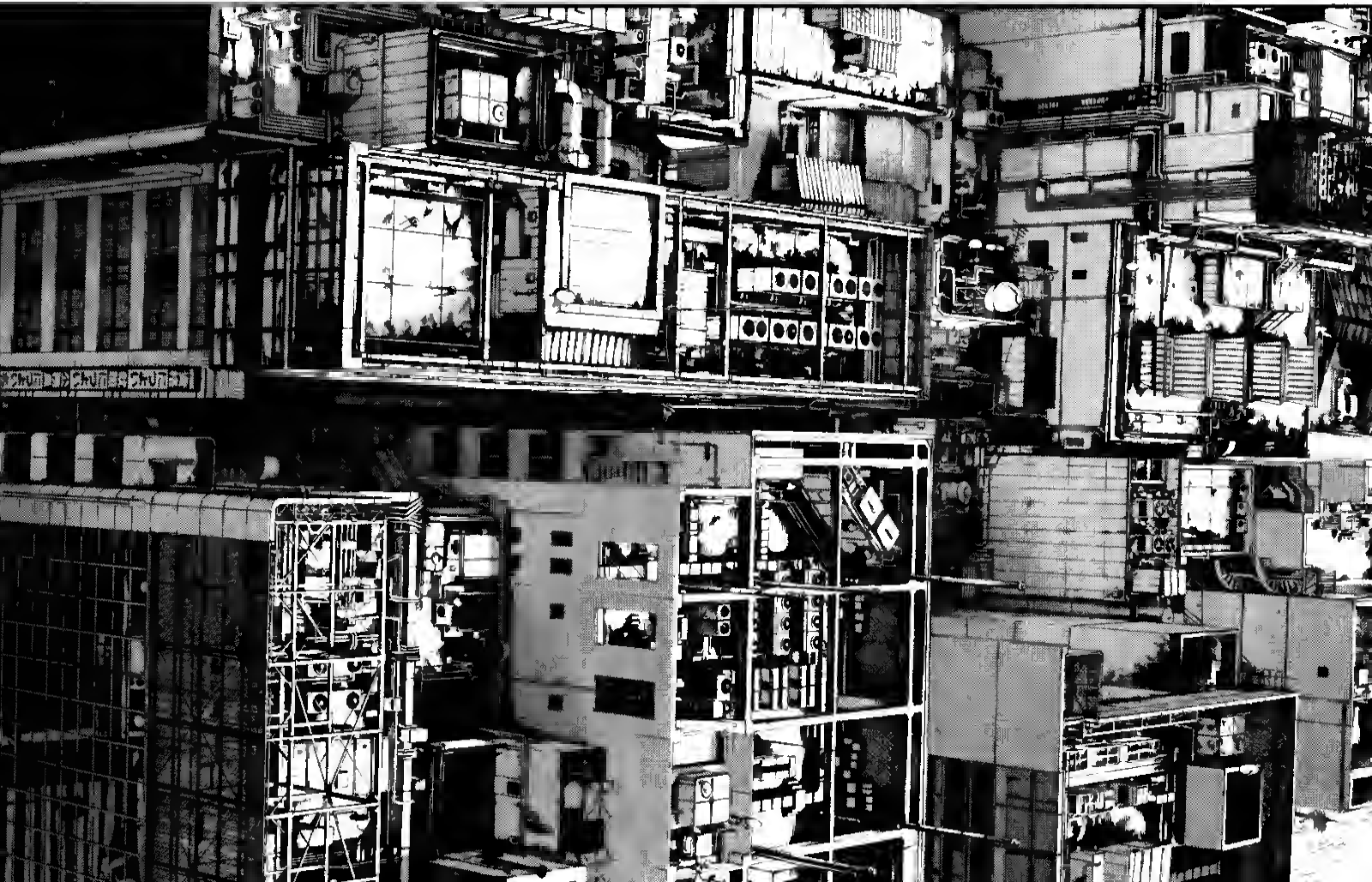
Morning of June 23.


9
富士
Fuji

CHAPTER 123



June 23, 4p.m.

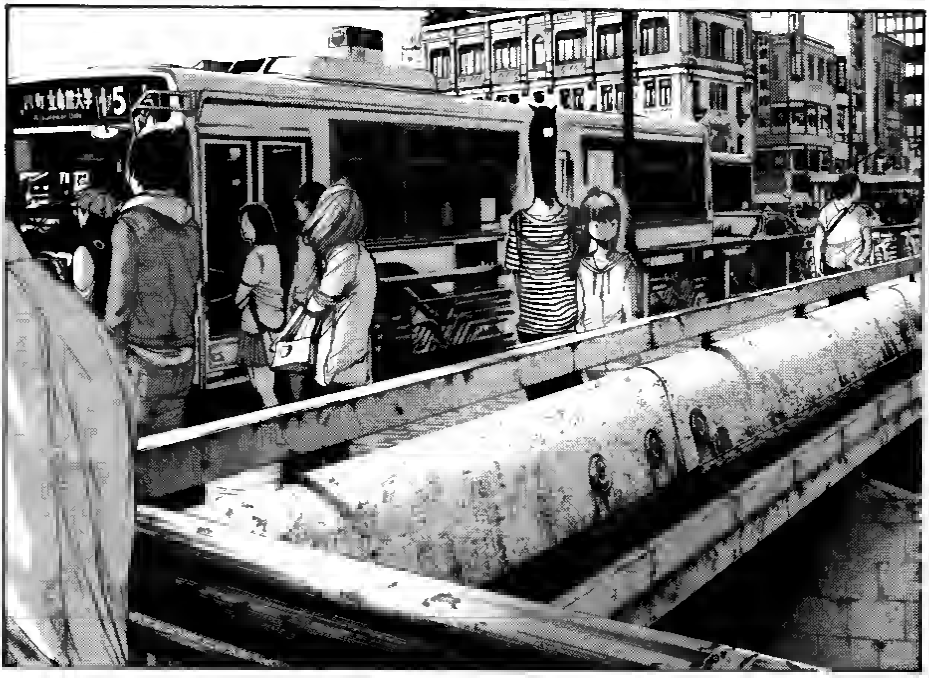


Kyoto...
I haven't been here since my middle school field trip...
"I... Hardly remember anything from my middle school days..."
Me too...

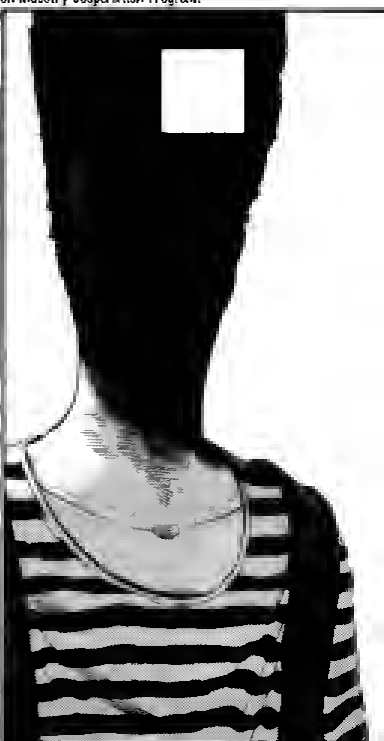
There's not a single friend or classmate from back then
That I still remember or keep in touch with...

"...Well, Is there some reason why we have to hurry then?"

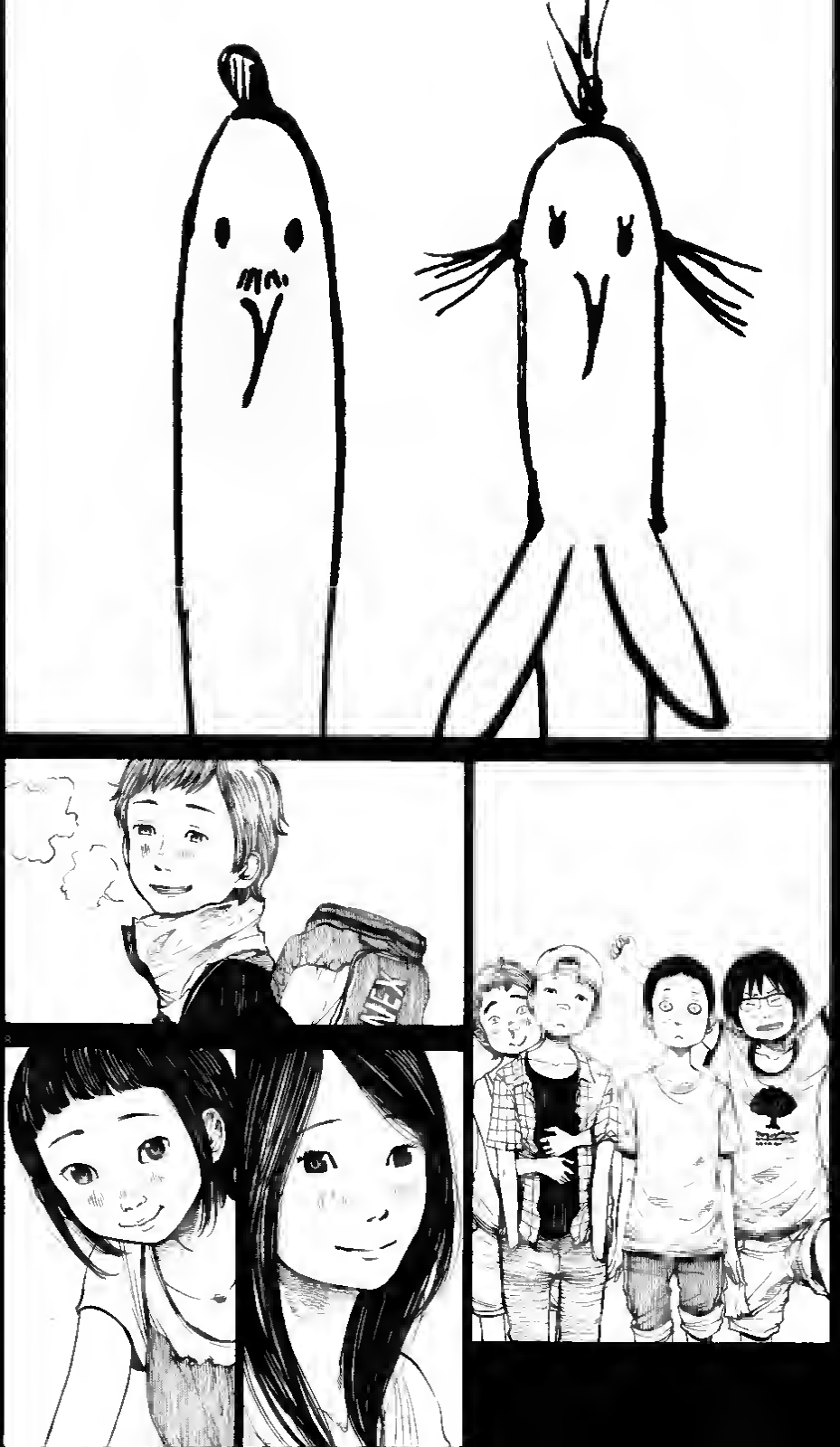
...Is it really fine for us to be just hanging out like this?



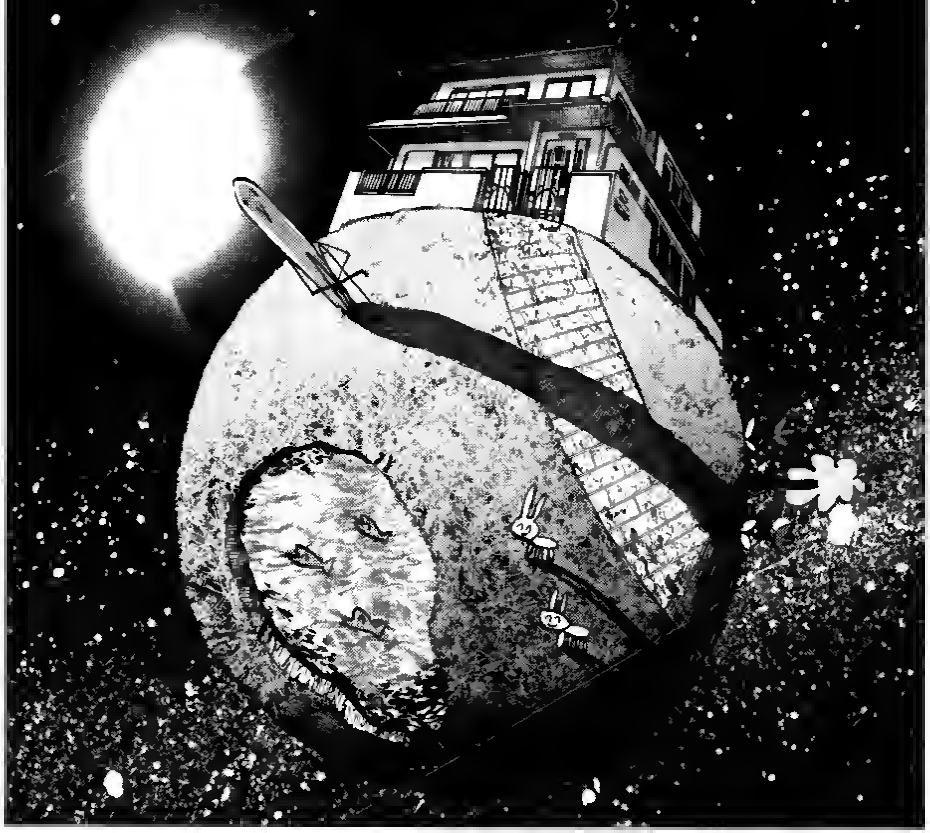
Sign reads "CAPIC Crafts. Hand-made goods made by prisoners as part of the Correctional Association Prison Industry Cooperation Program

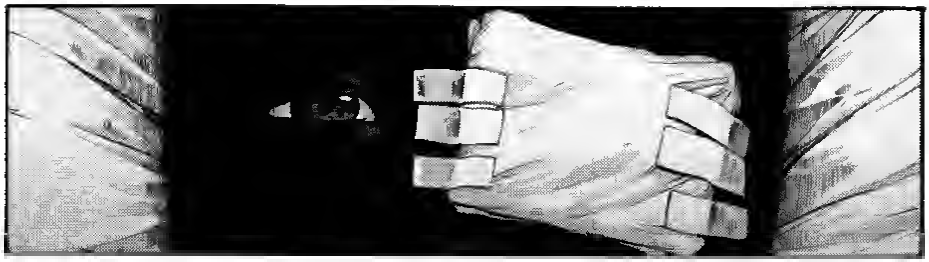


*The kanji below is used in the word "prison," and means punishment



OBT





Did you wake up...?

You've got to get some sleep...
You have a fever and an injured leg.
So don't push yourself so hard...
You've hardly slept in the past few days, right?

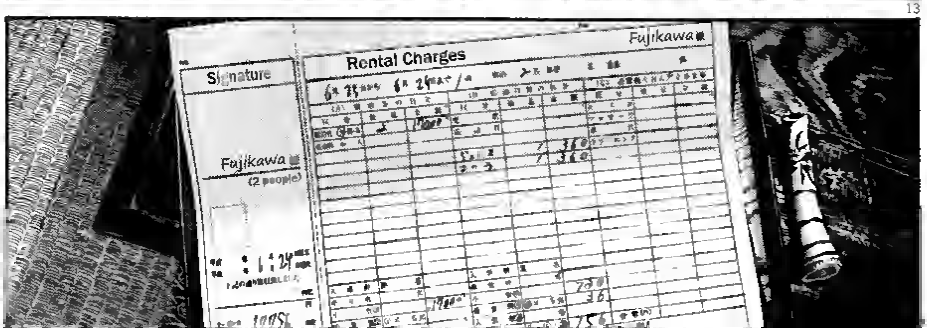
"I'm scared... I'll wake up from my dream if I fall asleep."

What're you...?

"Harder... Tighter..."
But if I were to do that...
Buffe

Stop saying weird things.
"Yes, so do it tighter..."
Please...
You'd die...

If you leave me alone.
Just what am I supposed to do...?


Signature
Rental Charges
Fujikawa
Fujikawa
(2 people)

民宿
紫楽

Early morning today,
At XX city of Tokyo Metropolis,

7:40
Police have received report of a robbery case
The suspect is described as a middle-aged man from age 30~40 with black glasses and long hair...
That's my hometown...

"Aiko... You know, I..."

"I may be a negative person who often looks back rather than ahead to the future, but I really do feel that I can run faster ahead than anyone in the world right now."

グリコ
みんなに笑顔を届けたい。
日商エステム
かぜに
改源
CHINTAI
毎週水曜日発売
激安
スーパー玉手

"So thank you, Aiko. For giving me despair."
"...I'm delighted to realize how strong of a person I really am."

Let's go.

CHAPTER 124

That's why I told you.
...Nanjou,
To be more honest with yourself!

Oh my. Kanie.
This some good meat you have...
Life is full of times when you realize how precious something was only after you've lost it!

Hello?
VISA

GOMEZ

People who were close with Onodera?
Hmm, let me think...
I don't think he had any female friends...

Even though he didn't really stand out much during high school,
There wasn't really anyone who spoke ill of him either...

No kidding.
What with that cowardly personality of his-
Oh, but you know,

2

Huh...
I could've sworn his lack of self-confidence was caused by some traumatic experience during his school years...

Oh no, no. I never actually liked him. It's just...
I guess it was me just wanting to have an "adult" moment, having finally become a high school student...
Is that what you liked about him, Azusa?
My impression of him was that he was too serious for his own good,
And a little stubborn as well...
It almost seemed as if he couldn't tell a lie...
Whoa, you listenin' to your sister?
Sounds like she's shattering your image of the perfect pure little sister.
Like I care.

But...
Even after the incident, he still talked to me every now and then, and we sometimes hung out together along with our other friends...
It really seemed like he tried hard not to make things awkward between us.
So... He was nice, to put it simply.

Being *that* considerate just has the opposite effect.
Ohh... So he was one of *those* guys...

I think it's because he's too self-conscious.
It's just that Onodera has such a low opinion of himself.
That's not to say I like cocky, opinionated guys though.

Ha, I'd kick his ass if he ever acted like such a big shot.

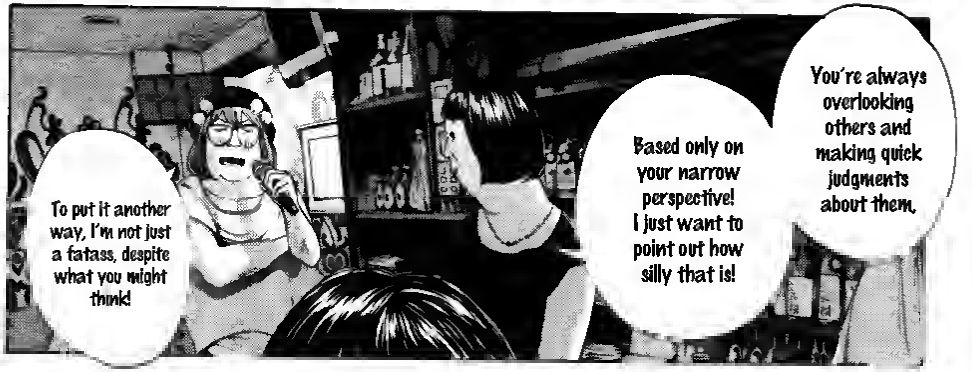
He'd be better off if he could genuinely ridicule others.
Being nice can be a disadvantage in some ways.

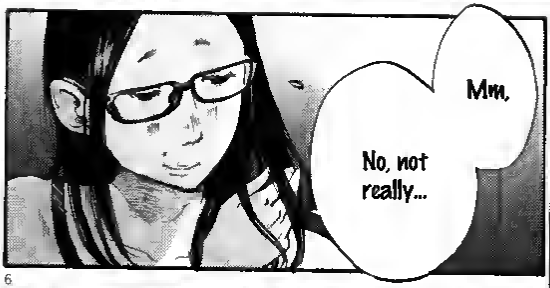
Oh?
He's doing pretty well for himself though, you know?

He might be a freeter, but at least he's supporting himself and studying for his license.
And he never grumbles about it, to boot.
I'd prefer a guy like that over one who has talent but always blows on his own horn.
But I suppose you wouldn't want him to be too independent.
After all, you loooove having a little pet utterly dependent on you, right?

Mistakenly thinking that he's the only one who could ever understand you.
You love to keep him leashed around, spoiling or spanking him depending on your mood.
You really think you can understand what kind of person he's really like with that kind of attitude?
I feel sorry for you if you can only have such deluded relationships like that for the sake of your pride.

...Then are you saying Punpun can really make it alone!?
Can't you see anyone else's opinion but your own!

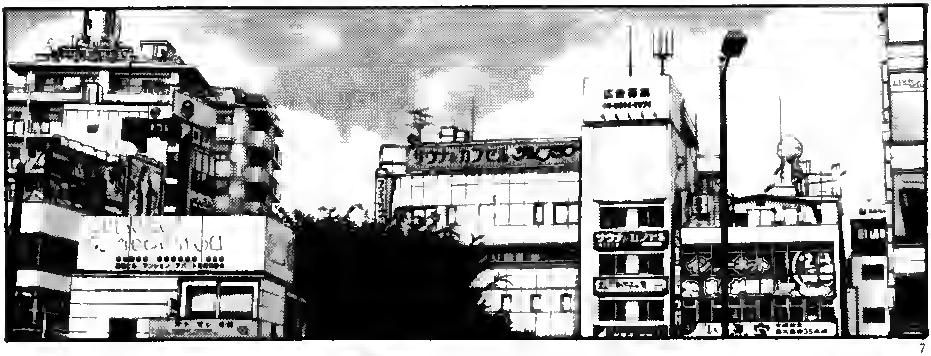

You're always overlooking others and making quick judgments about them.
Based only on your narrow perspective! I just want to point out how silly that is!
To put it another way, I'm not just a fatass, despite what you might think!


Mm,
No, not really...

Umm...
Did something happen to Onodera?

6

You're going out with him, aren't you, Sachi?



Huh?
Misuzu, where's your father?

福
Oh, he's probably busy flirting with the women in the rehab room.
Coca-Cola

He's really gotten much better these past few months...
In fact, he's become even more talkative that he's starting to annoy me.

英季総合病院
...He hasn't talked this much since I was a little girl.
The doctors say he won't be able to use his legs again,
But I suppose I should take solace in the fact that he didn't end up passing away...

Oh, in case you're wondering,
It was Onodera who brought all those maneki-neko dolls.
I don't know where he gets them, but he comes 2-3 times every week to drop off some more.
Yes,
And he always heads to our offices afterwards to use our computer to study for his license exam.
Oh...
Punpun comes by here that often?

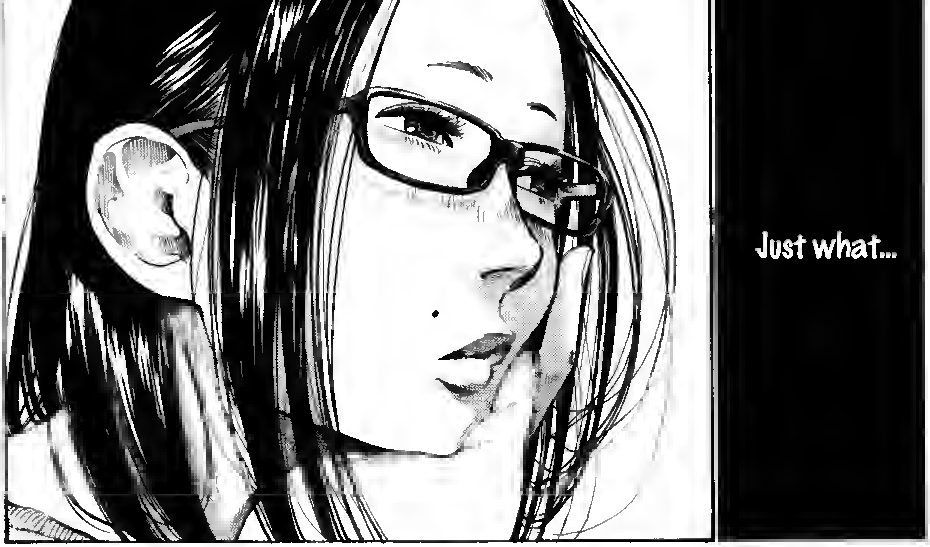
...Has he still not come back yet?
I'm still looking for him...
Well, I hope he comes back soon.
Here, this is the key to his place.
My father misses him a lot.
Oh, thank you.
If anything about his place seems strange, don't be afraid to call the police.
He's got his MOS exam coming up, not to mention the online courses left for his real estate license.
We can't have him get wrapped up in some sort of incident at such a critical time of his life now, can we?
Right...

Oh that reminds me.
He should've received the results of his PC proficiency test by now.
I promised that I'd buy a new computer for him if he passed, you know.
...That kid's too self-conscious for his own good.
Did you know he's been stupidly trying to hide how hard he's been studying?
Haha, strong effort's one of those things you just can't hide. I've actually been talking with some business associates of mine to see if I can arrange an interview for him.

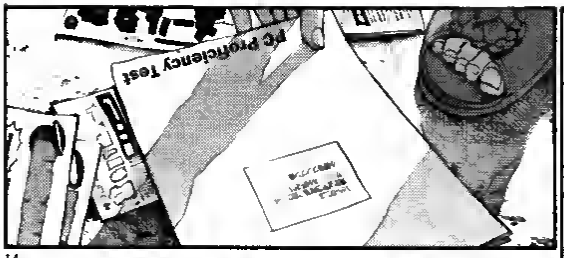
...Oh.
I never heard about any of that.

Well, you're busy with your manga career.
I'm sure he didn't tell you because he didn't want to distract you

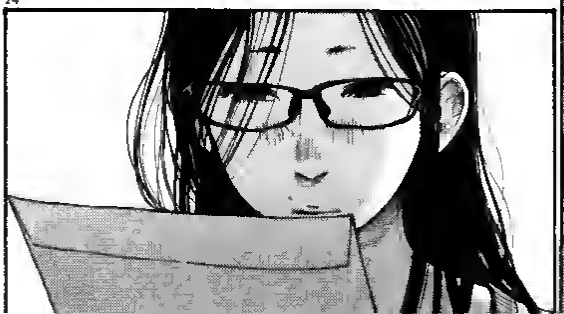
12



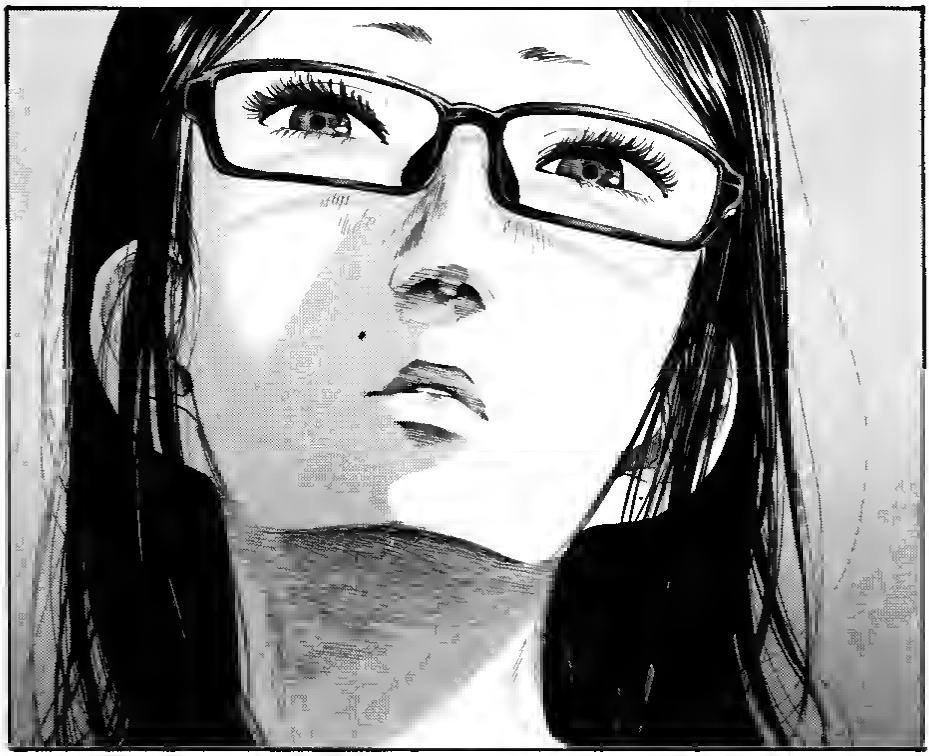
Do I actually know
about Punpun...?


Proficiency Test

Ah-

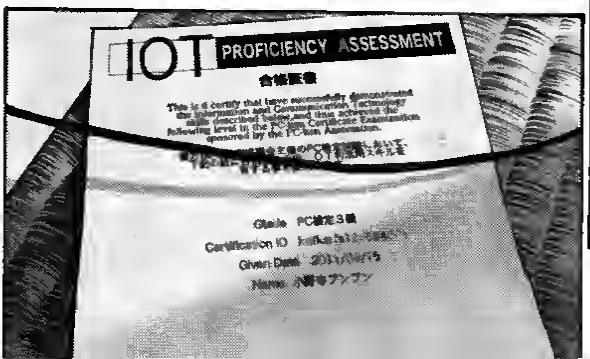


カ
チャッ



Just what the hell,
Is that idiot doing...?

June 24, 6 p.m

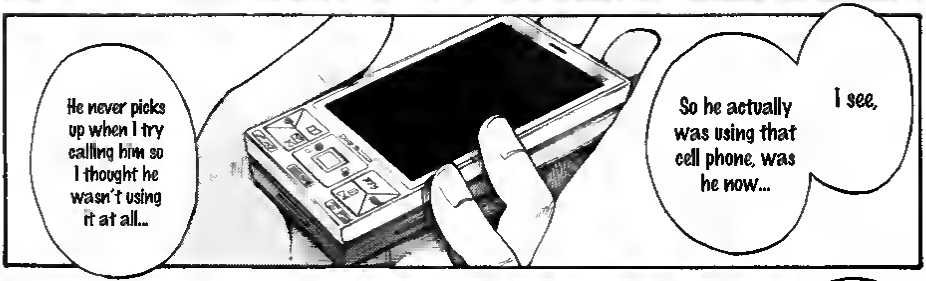

IOT PROFICIENCY ASSESSMENT
合格証書
This is to certify that have successfully demonstrated the interpretation and Communication Technology skills describing below and thus achieved the following level in the Proficiency Certificate Examination sponsored by the PCKan Association.
Grade PC検定3級
Certification ID
Given Date 2031/06/15
Name

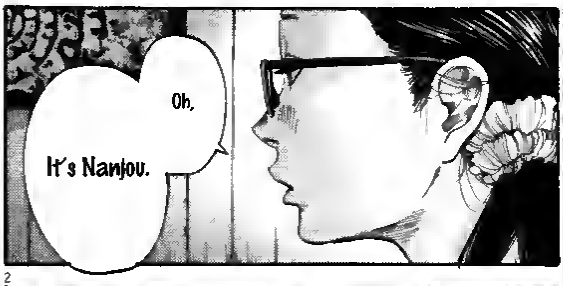
001 Ookuma Midori
beep
beep
Address Book
Registered Contacts: 1
Submenu
1. Register New Address
2. Search
3. Edit
4. Delete
5. Display Photo/List
6. Change Font Size
beep
beep
...What a wimp.

CHAPTER 125

June 25, 3:00 p.m.

Oh no, no. I should be the one apologizing for coming on such short notice...
Well,
In any case, why don't you take a seat?


He never picks up when I try calling him so I thought he wasn't using it at all...
So he actually was using that cell phone, was he now...
I see,


Oh,
It's Nanjou.

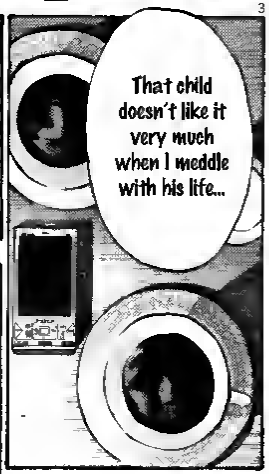
...Are you a friend of his from work?
What was your name again?

Midori,
Why don't we just send the phone back to his apartment?

Well Nanjou,
Don't you think it'd be better if you held onto this...?
After all, I can't imagine him actually coming here just to find his cell phone...

His friend here says he hasn't been home recently.
He's also not been going to his part-time job either...
Though I am a little worried,

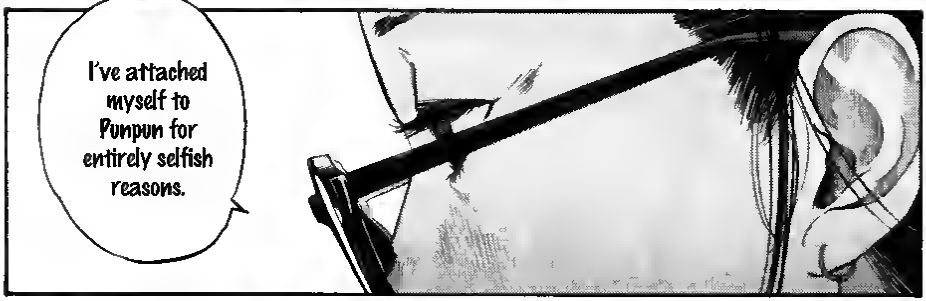
I'm sure he's fine in any case.
Punpun's a good, hard-working kid, after all.


That child doesn't like it very much when I meddle with his life...

Umm..
Have you talked with Punpun recently?
Well, my husband last called him on New Year's so I guess it's been half a year since I last spoke with him...
He sounded very happy when I told him I was pregnant
Right,
I can see your belly's gotten quite big...
Yes, next week is my expected delivery date.
Although I won't be able to manage this shop for some time after the birth, I'm actually thinking of expanding out to a second shop..
It'd be nice if you and Punpun could come visit us once I've got it up and running.
Manager, you have a call waiting!

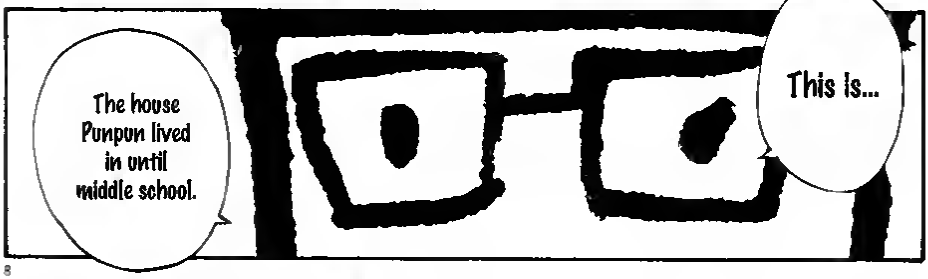
Sorry about my wife.
It can be a little hard to get through to her.
She's probably one of those people who thinks the world revolves around her.
But that's also why she can carry out things so well without a hitch. A wonderful trait.
...Nanjou.
You're...
Not just a simple friend of Punpun from work, are you now?

To tell you the truth...


I've attached myself to Punpun for entirely selfish reasons.

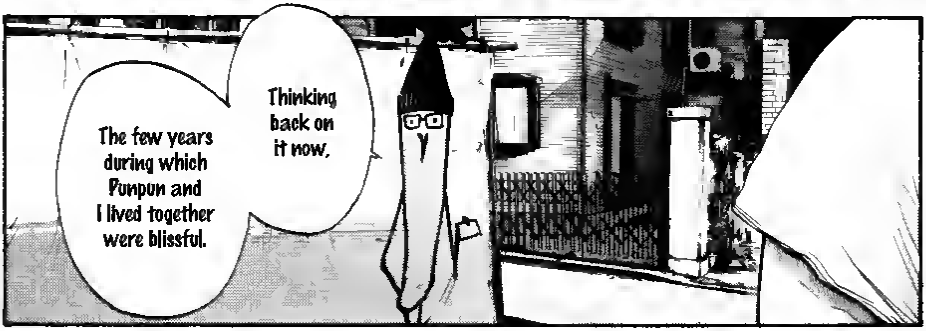
I'm sorry I have no idea where to find him.
Though I am his blood relative, our sense of "family" has always been rather flimsy.

You searched through his house?
When I checked his house, I found some girl's clothes along with blood-stained bedsheets.
I even sniffed the tissue wads.
I'm creepy, aren't I?
Inside the garbage can were some semen-crusted tissues.
But at the same time, I also find you quite commendable.
Yes, quite.
歩行者 自転車とびだし

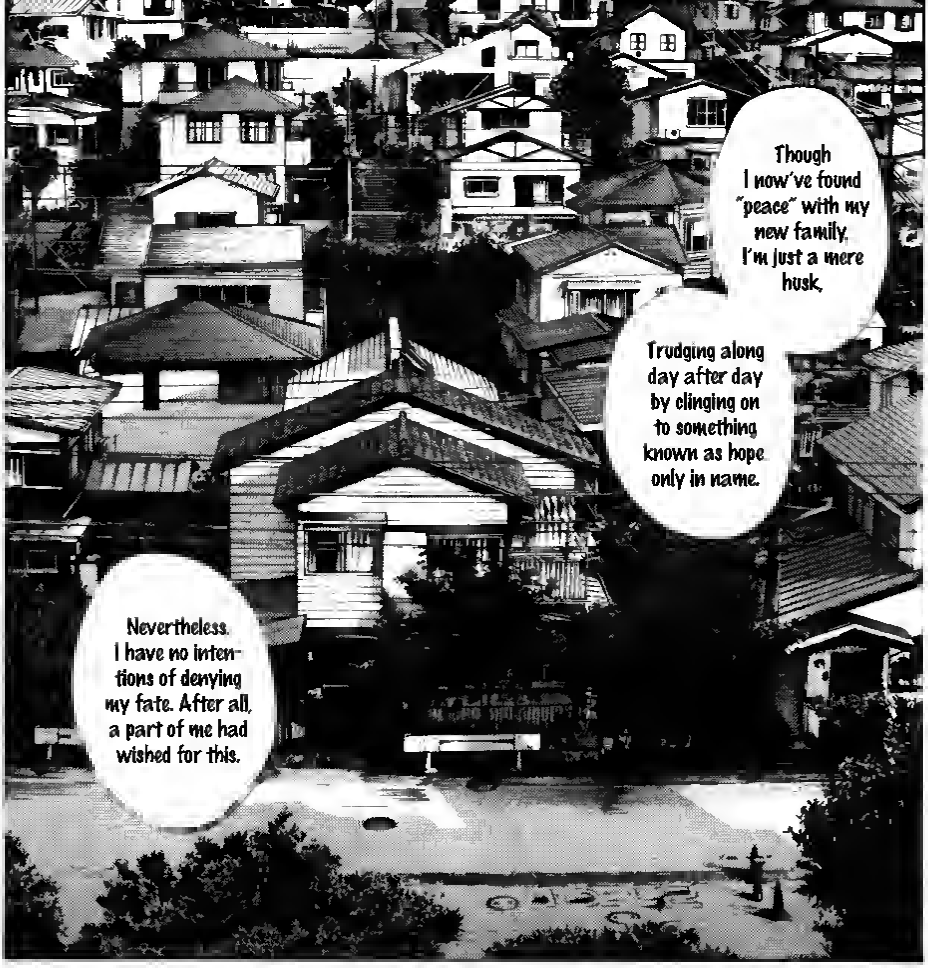

This is...
The house Punpun lived in until middle school.

安全
安全

I'm sure the newly built house will be home to a happy family.
It wasn't even that old of a house,
But as they say, out with the old, in with the new..
Construction Plan Notice
Umm...
Why did you bring me here...?


Thinking back on it now,
The few years during which Punpun and I lived together were blissful.

Even though we both knew things couldn't stay like that forever-
Or perhaps it was *because* we knew it was only temporary,
That we did our best to play the part of a happy family.

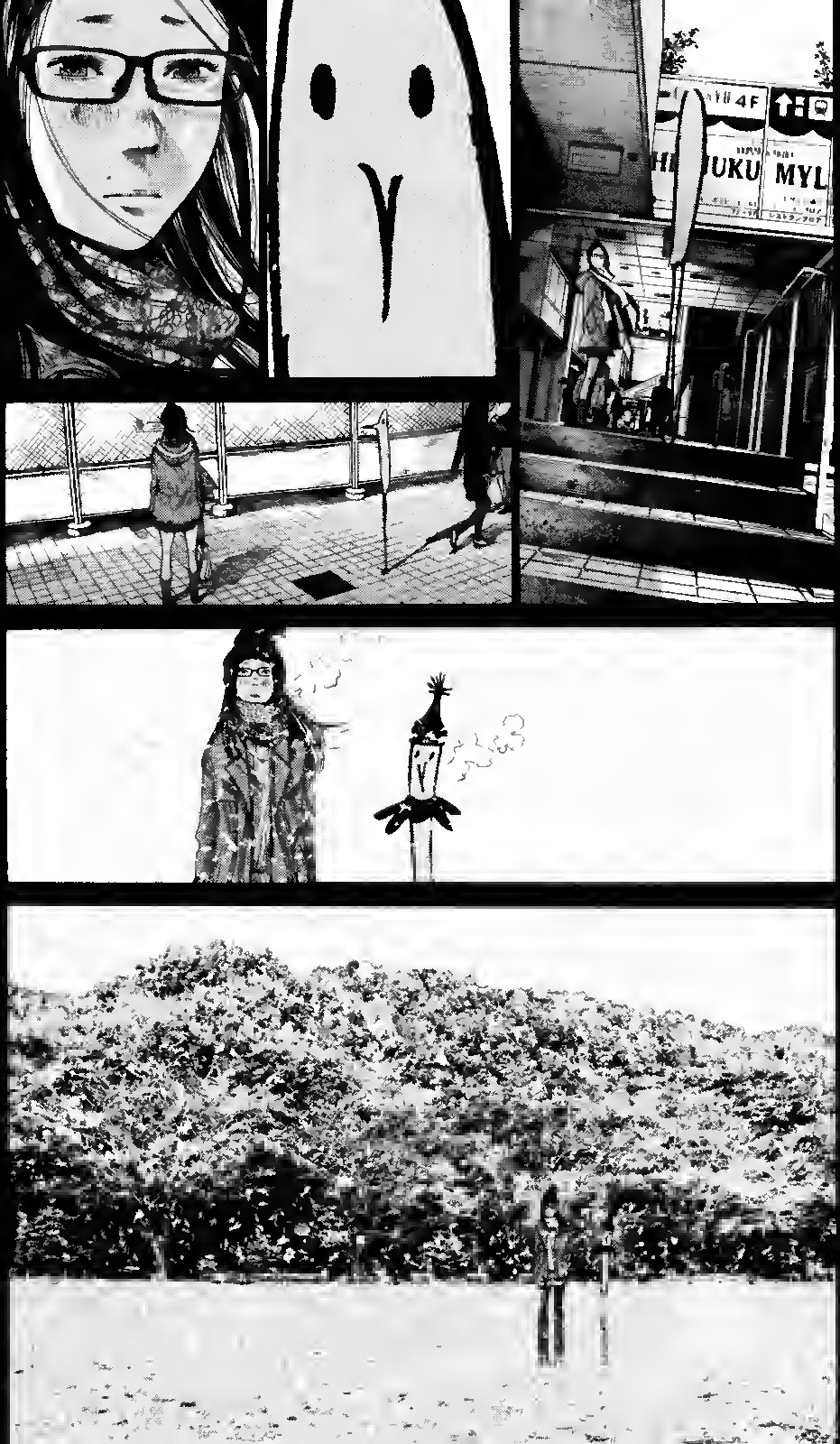

Though I now've found "peace" with my new family, I'm just a mere husk.
Trudging along day after day by clinging on to something known as hope only in name.
Nevertheless, I have no intentions of denying my fate. After all, a part of me had wished for this.

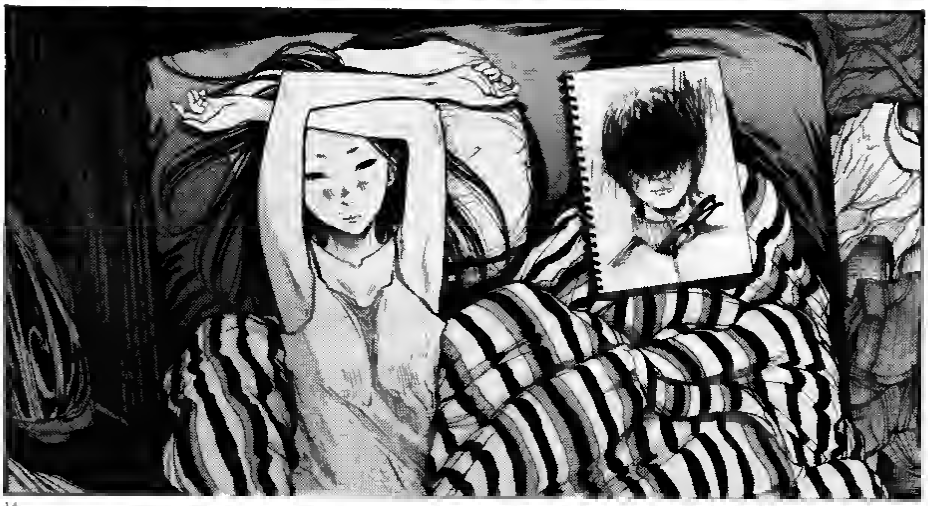
To be honest,
I don't mind whatever Punpun is doing, wherever he is.
Because you see,
I understand him!
I know what it is he's really longing for...!
As long as he himself made the choice to do it

He used to be a much more talkative boy who freely showed his emotions.
..Though he's rather aloof and taciturn now.
If you intend on bearing the burden of becoming his partner.
You ought to learn more about Punpun's true self...

You're just like his mother...!
Especially because...

When I called him last New Year's he told me he had someone he wanted to introduce me to.
I'm guessing that person was you, Nanjou, wasn't it?

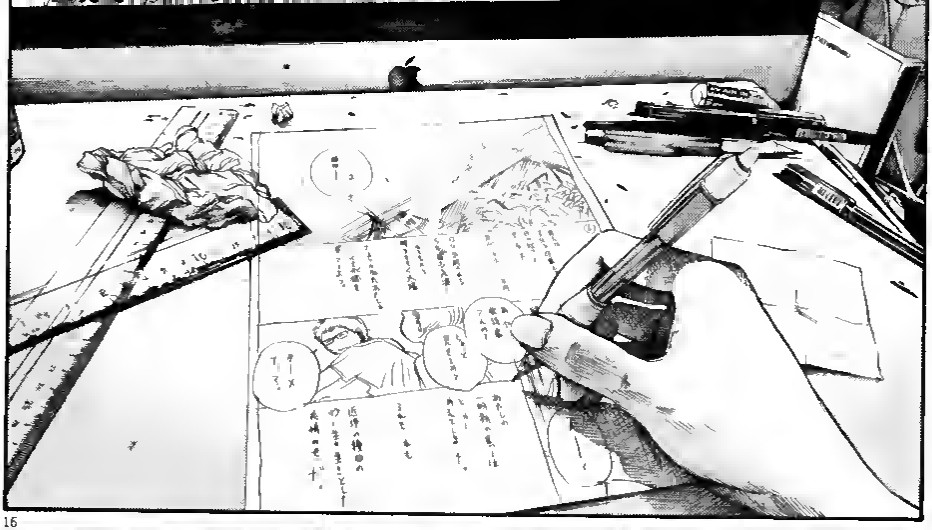

4F
UKU MYL



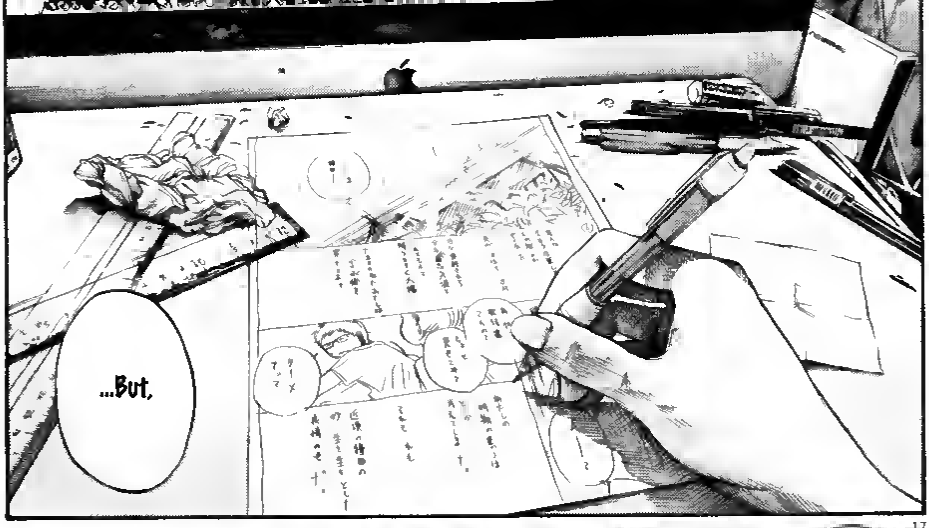
...Wha?
You're pregnant?

But I must confess that is a little worrying.
Uhhh yeah, sorry for the late notice...
You see, the chief editor has taken an interest in your oneshot in our latest issue set to go on sale tomorrow,
And he wanted to inquire if you could perhaps turn it into a 2 volume-long project...
Oh no, no need to apologize. Contratulations, actually.

I...
I'll gladly do it, of course...



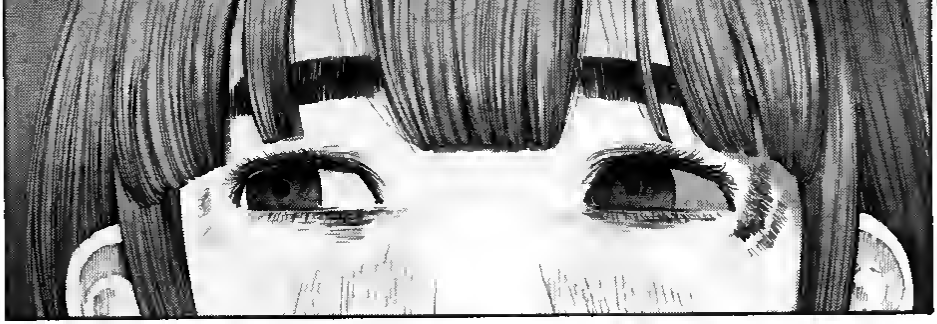
2 volumes in about half a year...
I'm more flawed than others.
That means I really have to get cracking.
So the only way I can place myself on the same starting line as them is through sheer effort.
I've got to give it my best shot.
Sell a ton of my manga.
And finally become normal.

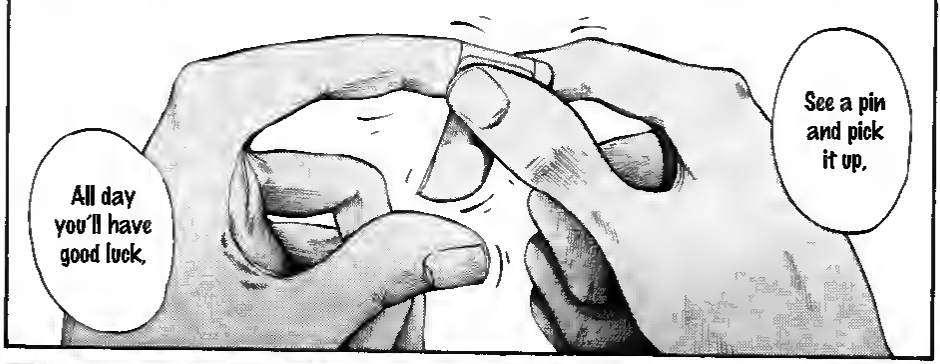

...But,

Ugh...
This hair's in the way...
Once that happens...
Just who can I share my joy with...?

Zippo
Punyama Punpun-Papa
Fukushima Iwaki City

CHAPTER 126




See a pin and pick it up.
All day you'll have good luck.

See a pin and let it lay.
Bad luck you'll have all the day...

June 26, 5:00 p.m.

June 26, Night.

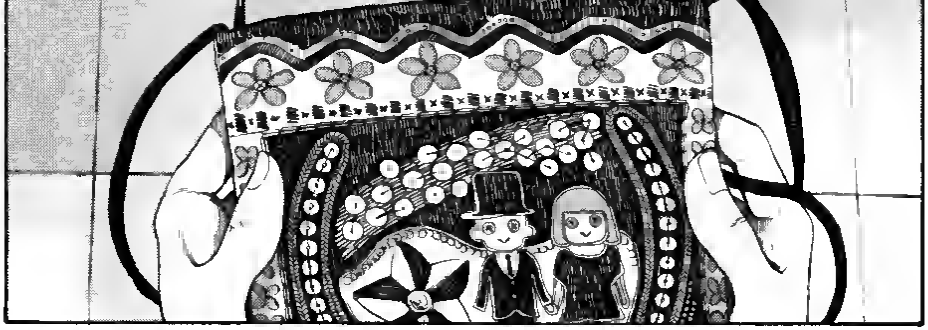
...Always raining.

...How sad it is for those two to be separated for so long...
...can never see the Milky Way.

June 27, Morning

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

化粧室
Hahaha!

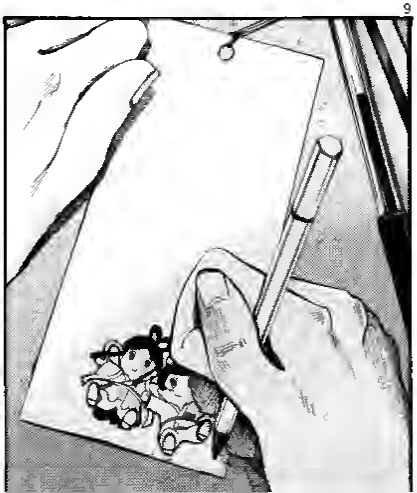


スクール水着

497
97

25
SHISEIDO

"Well, stop. That's so stupid."



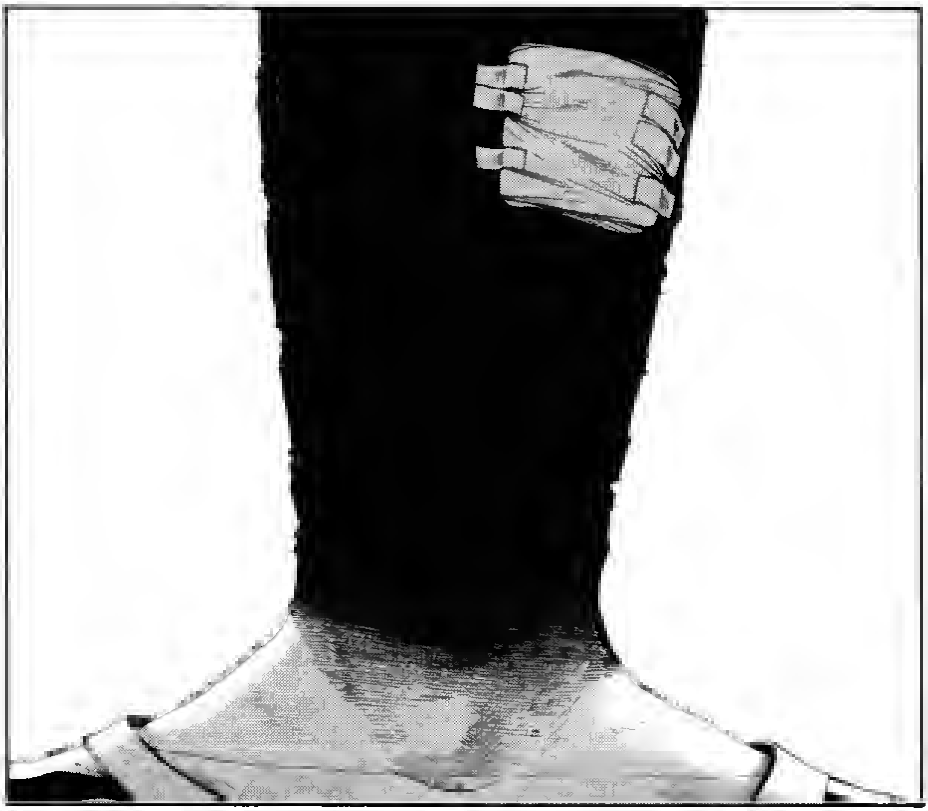
"...What a lame purse."

"...Stop. I'm really not in the mood for this."

"...I *told* you to stop."

NNNOO
OOOOOO
OOOOOO
OOOOOO
OOO!
STOOOP!
SNIFF
UU...

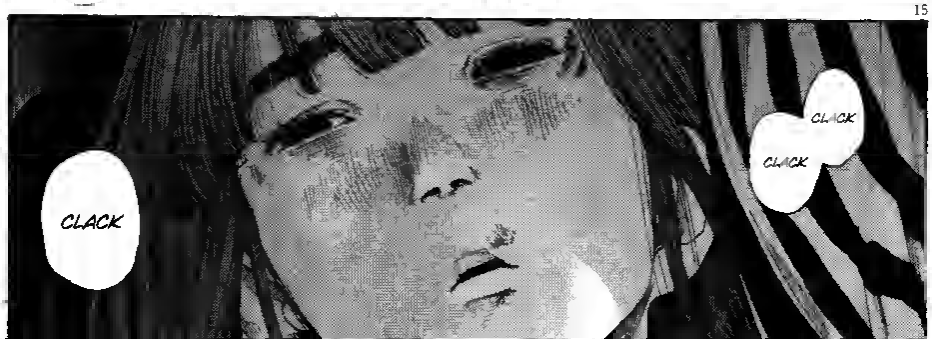
"Don't worry. It's just a normal lover's spat."



"...So quit staring at us,
you dipshits."

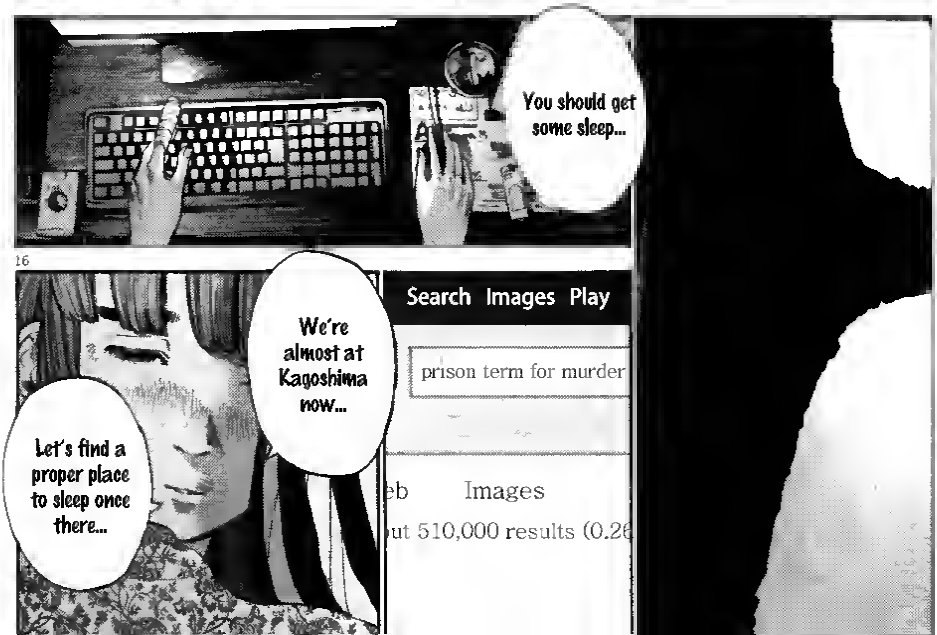
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK

CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK


CLACK
CLACK
CLACK

...Punpun.

Your back is burning up...
Do you have another fever...?


You should get some sleep...
We're almost at Kagoshima now...
Let's find a proper place to sleep once there...
Search Images Play
prison term for murder
Images
ut 510,000 results (0.2

"...Just what am I doing in a place like this?"

CLACK

"...Aiko."

CLACK

画像 地図 Play Youtube ニュー

murder on the run

CLACK

CLACK

Web Images Map Shopping

About 3,620,000 results (0.26 seconds)

suicide methods

"Did I... really kill a person?"

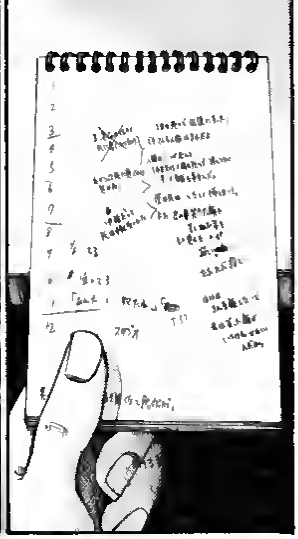
The Yamabiko No. 177 train headed for Sendai is-
The No. 20 has now arrived.
やまびこつばさ 177号 9:48 仙台
停車駅 つばさ
回送
255号 10:20 都山

Tokyo
(北) Fukushima
東京都区内
(北) 福島
¥4 620

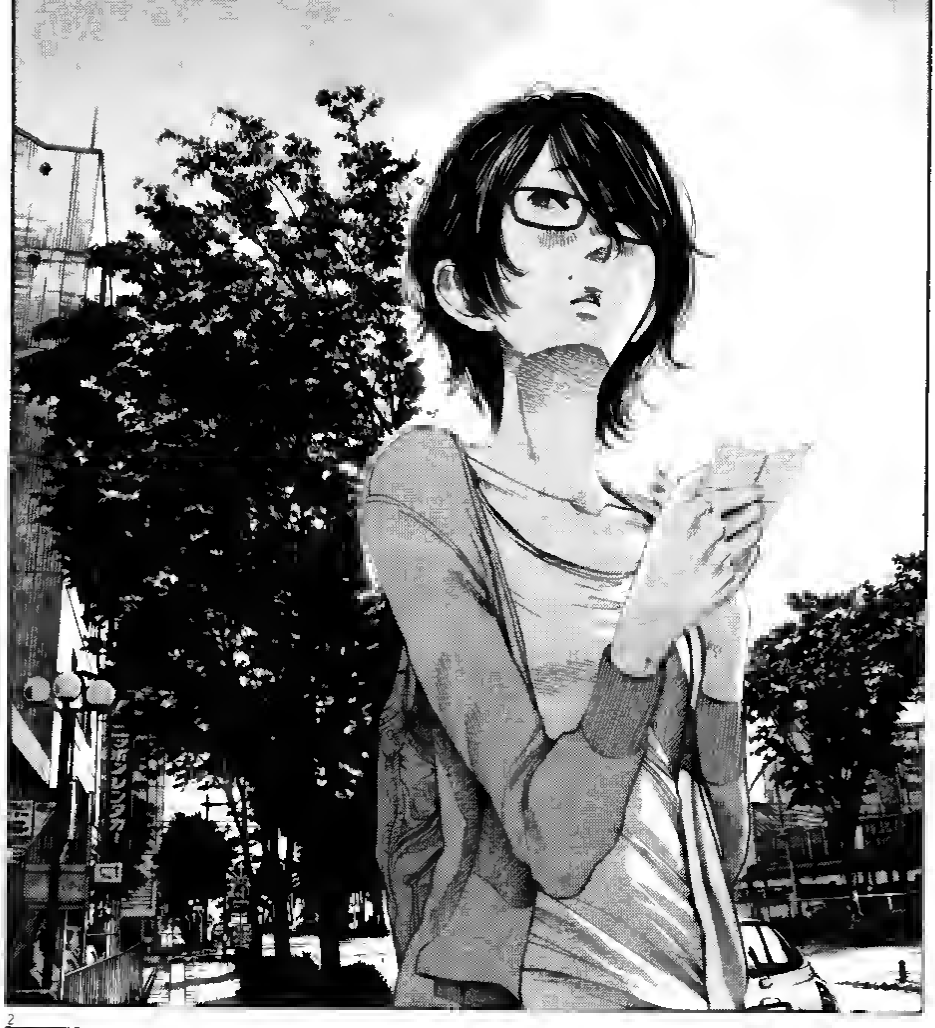
18

21 20
21
20

CHAPTER 127



June 28



2

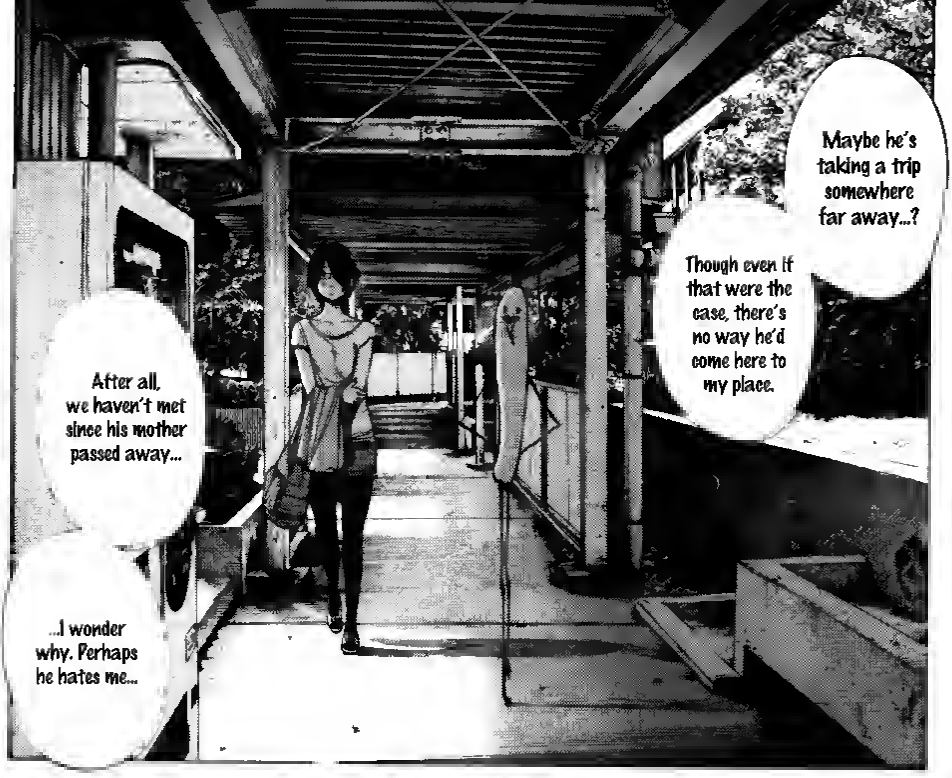
*sign reads that it's a nursing home for the elderly

Mr. Punyama?
He's out walking with one of the residents right now but he'll be right back.

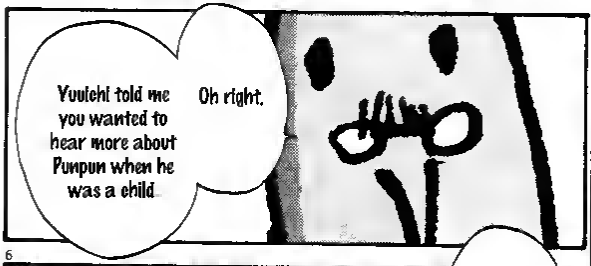
Mr. Punyamaaa!
There's a visitor here for you!
She's a young woman all the way from Tokyo.

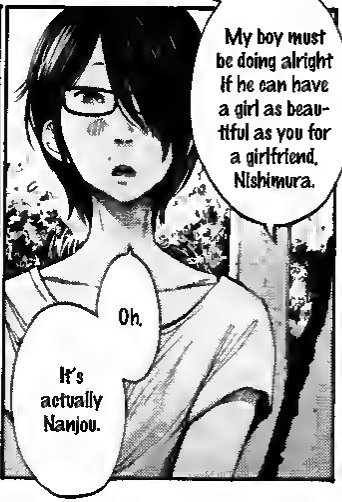
Oh, hello there!

Oh, umm, actually...
Well.
Yes, I suppose so...
So Punpun hasn't been home for a while, has he now...
Yuuichi has already filled me in on the details.
Must be hard living together when you're both a couple of 20-somethings.
...Well, you certainly do seem like a strong-willed girlfriend.


Maybe he's taking a trip somewhere far away...?
Though even if that were the case, there's no way he'd come here to my place.
After all, we haven't met since his mother passed away...
...I wonder why. Perhaps he hates me...

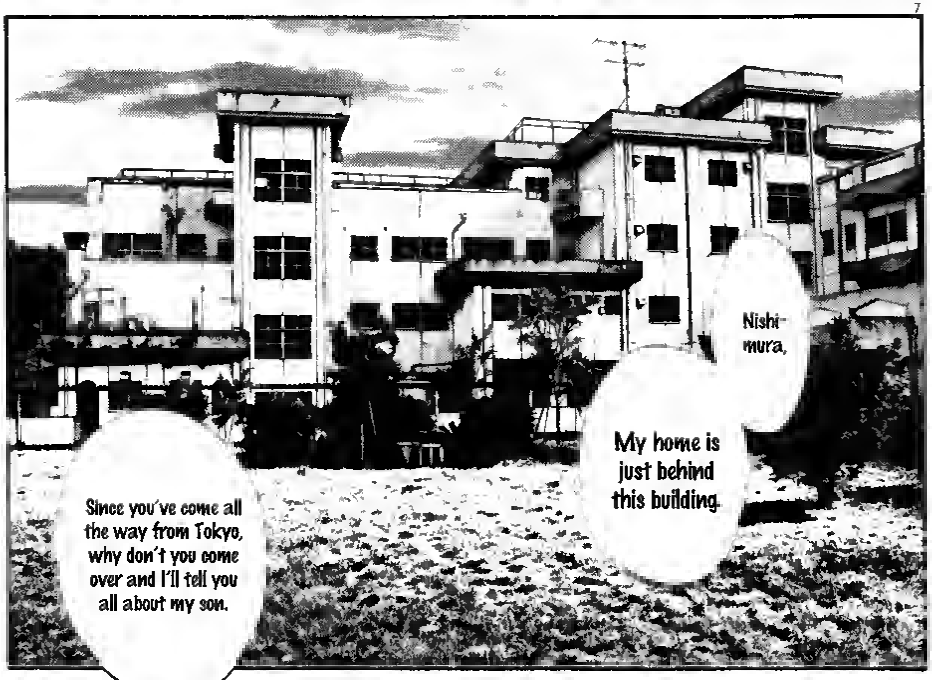
But I have to say,


Yuuichi told me you wanted to hear more about Punpun when he was a child.
Oh right.


My boy must be doing alright if he can have a girl as beautiful as you for a girlfriend, Nishimura.
Oh,
It's actually Nanjou.

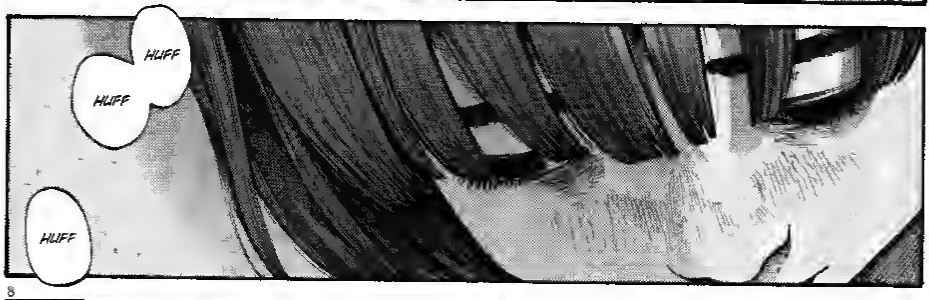
Yes, as long as it wouldn't be a bother...
Oh, of course not. It's just that my memory's not so good, you know...

Oh...
That's a little unexpected.
Perhaps I'm biased, considering I'm his parent and all.
But he seemed much smarter and more mature than the other kids his age...
Well... Punpun used to be quite an outgoing and talkative boy when he was young.

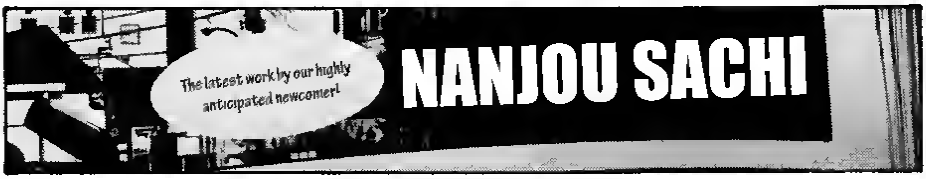

Since you've come all the way from Tokyo, why don't you come over and I'll tell you all about my son.
My home is just behind this building.
Nishi-mura,

HUFF...
HUFF
HUFF

HUFF
HUFF


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

'scuse me, I'd like to make my purchase!

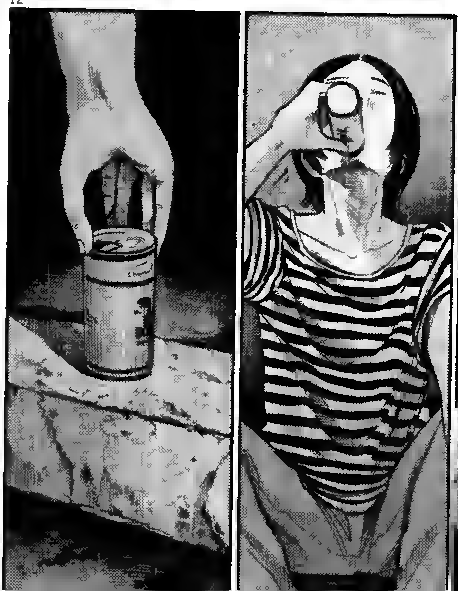

The latest work by our highly anticipated newcomer!
NANJOU SACHI

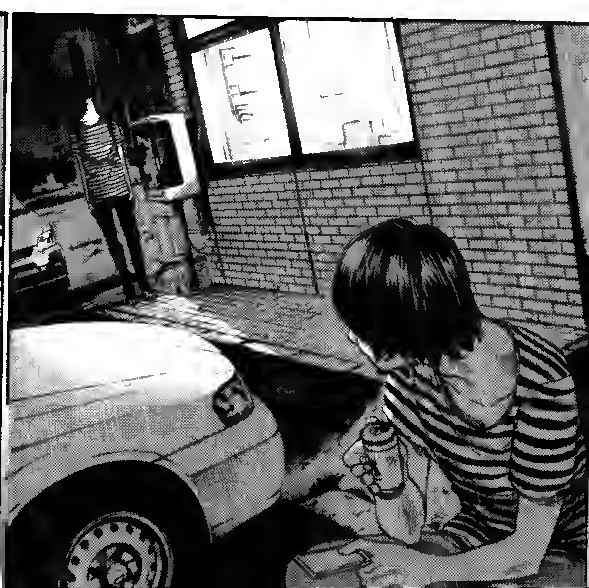
URGHH!
HUFF
COUGH! COUGH!
MN-
URF...

HEY!
AND YOU CALL YOURSELF AN EMPLOYEE HERE!?
CAN'T YOU SEE I'M IN A RUSH!?
Sorry sir, but our shop is currently enquiring the manufacturer for-
Um...
WAAAAAAAHHH!
'Scuse me! I said I'd like to buy this but there ain't anyone at the counter here!
Can I eat this oden?
Oh, for goodness sake...

What, you mean this?
Huh?
"Excuse me,"
"...Is that manga interesting?"
11
Nah, it's pretty boring.
All these characters are so clueless.
FINE! JUST GET THE MANAGER ALREADY!
Can I please get someone here at the cash register!
WAAHHHH!

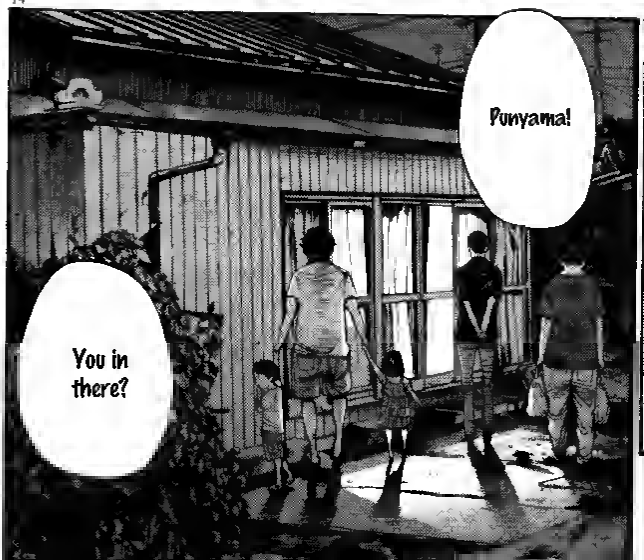
12





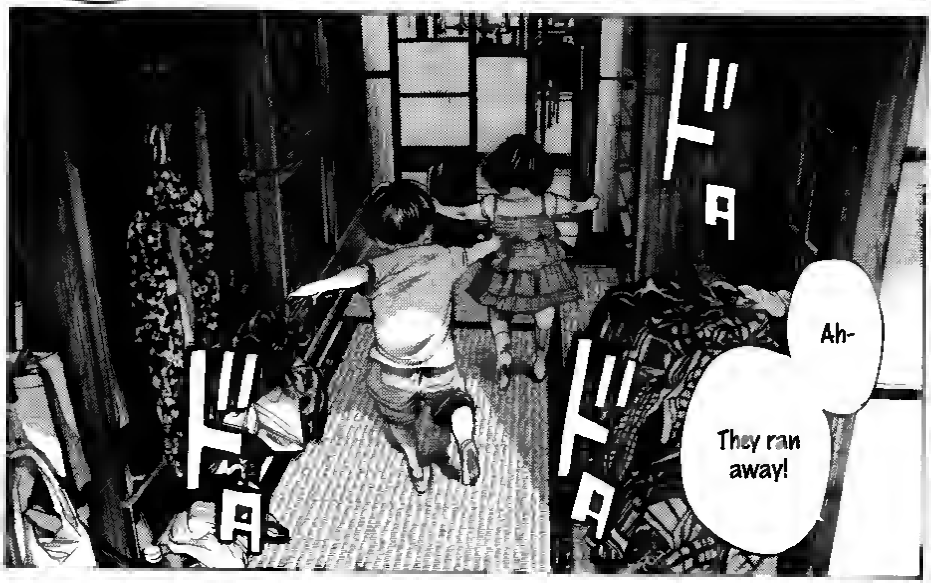
Sorry if the place is a lil' messy.
Sit wherever you want.

Umm,
You really don't have to-
Now where did I put those cookies...

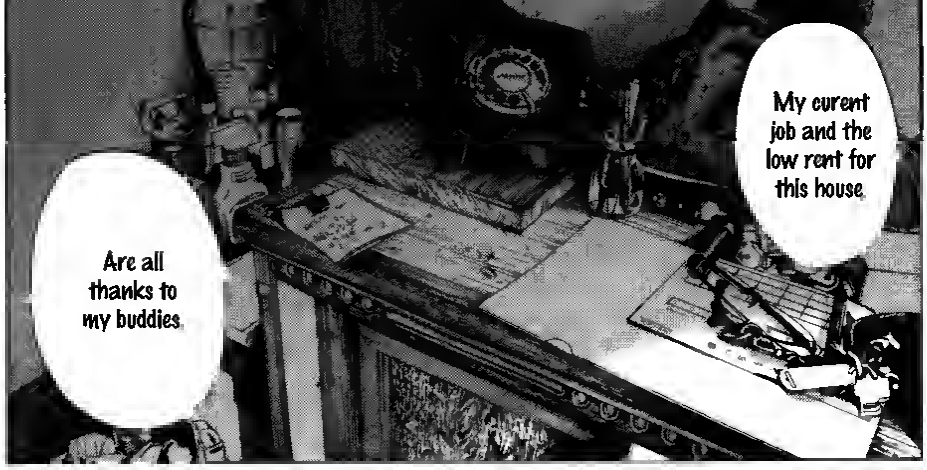

Punyama!
You in there?

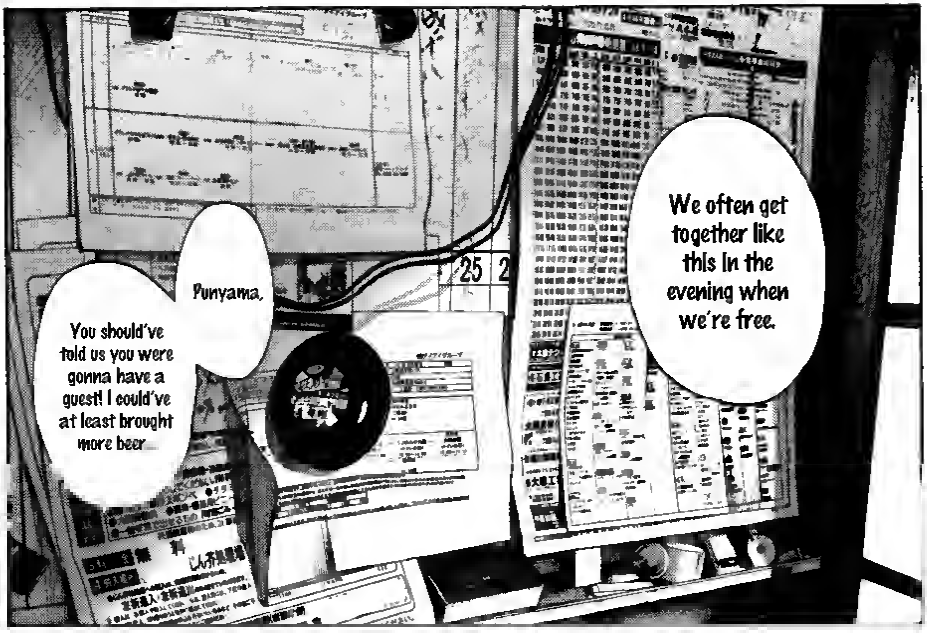
...And what's she doing here?
Huh? Who's she...?
Oh haha, that's a long story...
Oh, she's just Punpun's girlfriend.
Ah, let me introduce you, Nanjou
Hey, what was that now!?
Hello there.
These are my fishing-mates
Give us a more proper introduction! At least tell her our names!

Hello, kids.
Aren't you just adorable.


Ah-
They ran away!

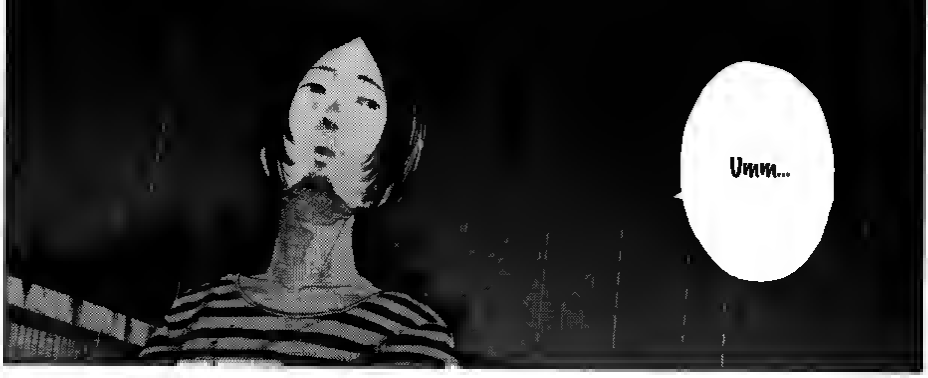
You know, Nanjou,
My pals here and I have all been divorced once before.
What's with them? Maybe they got nervous 'cause they've never seen such a beautiful lady!


My curent job and the low rent for this house
Are all thanks to my buddies


We often get together like this in the evening when we're free.
Punyama,
You should've told us you were gonna have a guest! I could've at least brought more beer...

Cheers!

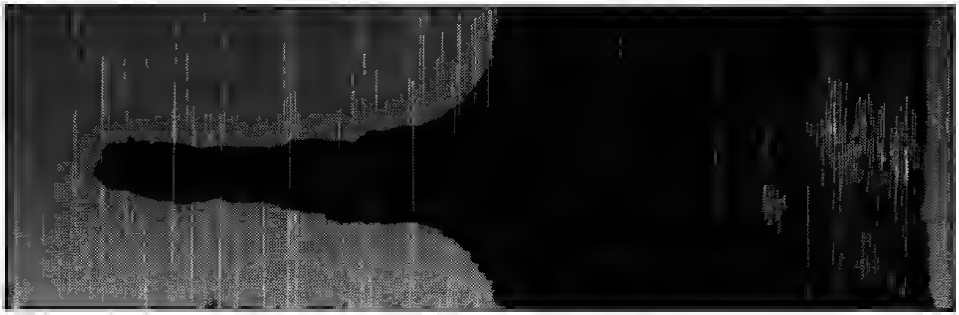
Well, in any case...

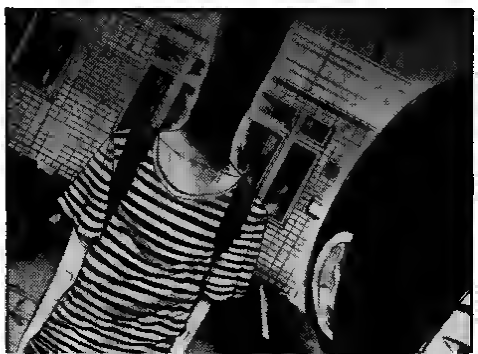

Umm...

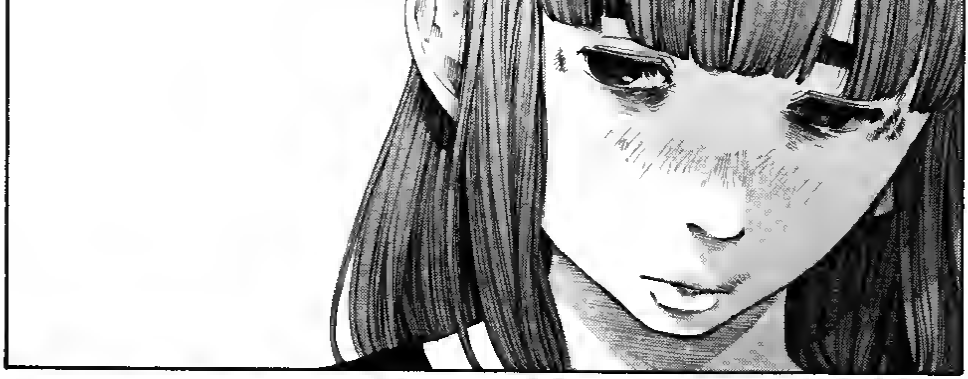
Do you
Need anything from me?
MUSIC HOUSE

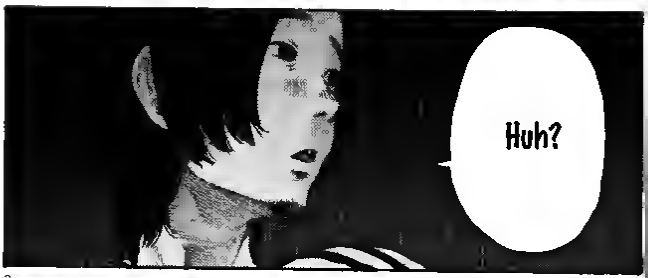
CHAPTER 128

"...It's not good to leave empty cans on the ground."

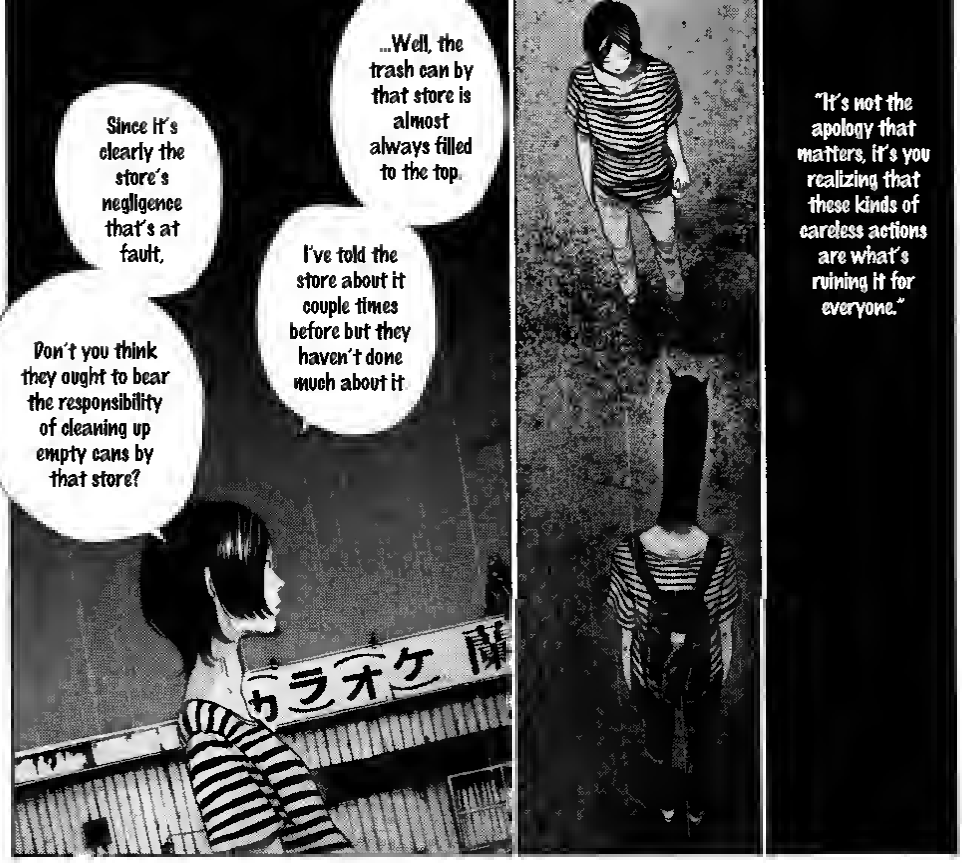


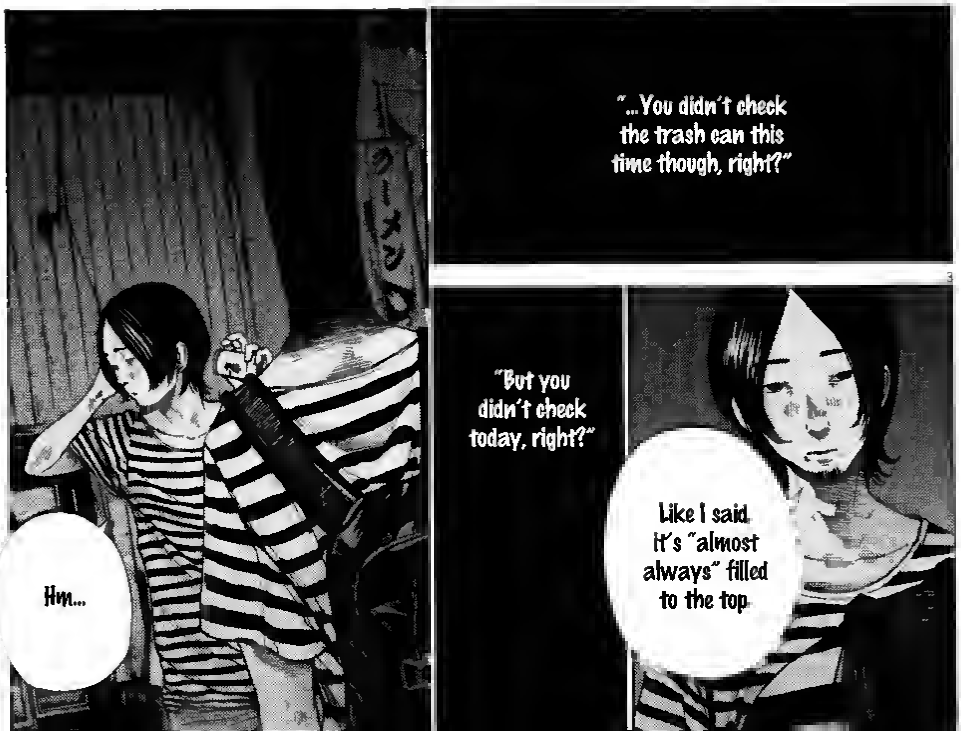






"...There's no point in saying sorry to me."


...Well, the trash can by that store is almost always filled to the top.
Since it's clearly the store's negligence that's at fault.
I've told the store about it couple times before but they haven't done much about it
Don't you think they ought to bear the responsibility of cleaning up empty cans by that store?
カラオケ 蘭
"It's not the apology that matters, it's you realizing that these kinds of careless actions are what's ruining it for everyone."

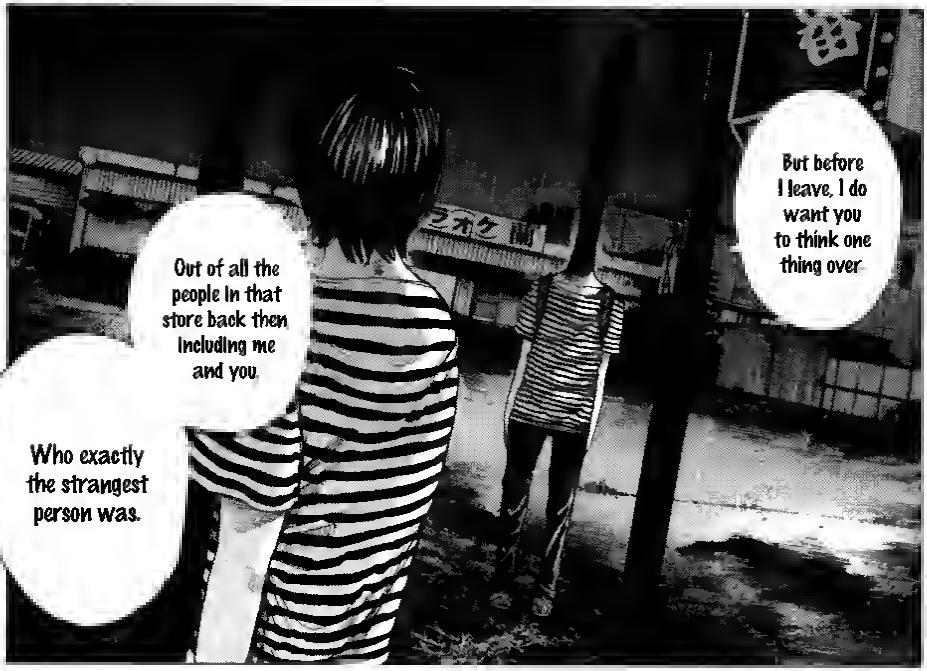

ラーメン
Hm...
"...You didn't check the trash can this time though, right?"
"But you didn't check today, right?"
Like I said, it's "almost always" filled to the top.

Alright, fine. I understand.
Why don't we go back and check if it's full or not?
As you pointed out, it's certainly possible that the trash can wasn't full today.
But. If we go back and the trash can is full, I hope you'll admit that you're criticizing me on faulty grounds

And in such a case, I think it's only fair you owe me an apology.
After all, not only did you offend me, you've also wasted my valuable time.

"Enough with the excuses. Can't you even throw away one empty can without grumbling?"

Oh, I see how it is.
You know, I think I'll just go throw this in the trash can by the vending machine just ahead from here.
You can't complain then, right?
Why're you even picking on me to lord over your sense of justice?
I mean, out of all the people in that store,
You just had to pick "me" out, even though others were causing more of a disturbance?
"...Stop trying to change the topic."

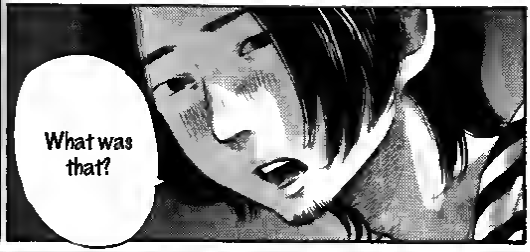

But before I leave, I do want you to think one thing over.
Out of all the people in that store back then, including me and you,
Who exactly the strangest person was.

"...Just what exactly is it you want to say?"

It's not that I want to say something,
It's rather that I want you to realize something
But whatever.
This is getting stupid so I'll just come out and say it
When I think of how people like you,
Go on living just fine even as they abuse their deluded notions of right and wrong,
It honestly annoys me so much that I'm more depressed than angry.

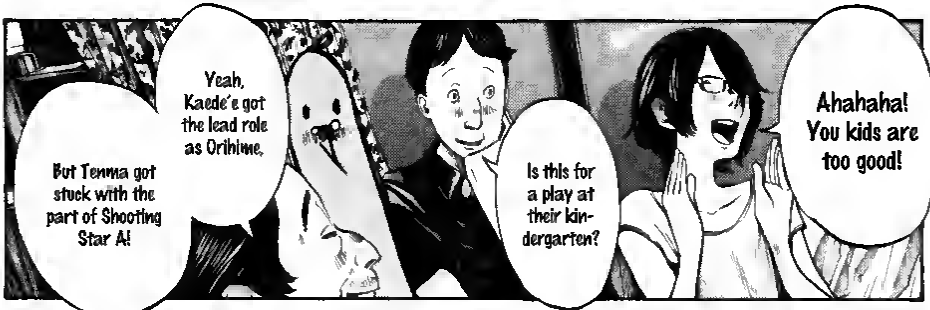
"Guys like you piss me off the most."

"...You're a real mouthy punk aren't you?"



"I said guys like you piss me off the most."

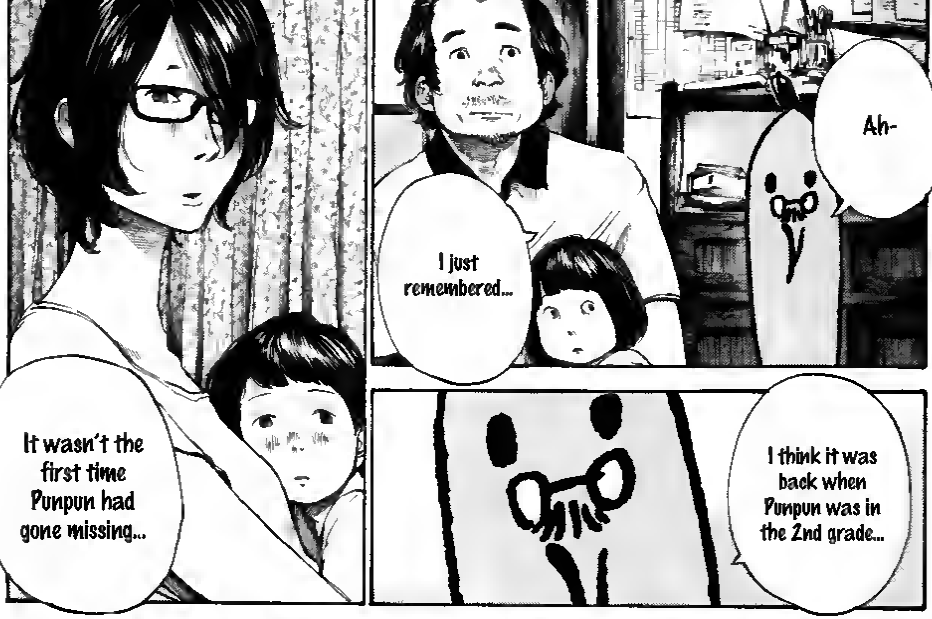
Bamboo leaves are rustling, rustling,
Swaying close to the roof's edge~


Ahahaha! You kids are too good!
Is this for a play at their kindergarten?
Yeah, Kaede's got the lead role as Orihime.
But Tenma got stuck with the part of Shooting Star A!

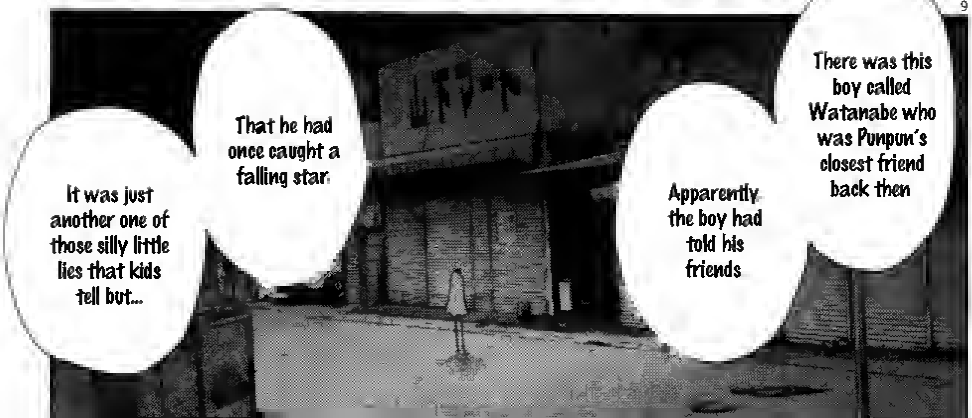
Aww, what's wrong with being a shooting star?
I personally think it's pretty cool.

Whoops,
Guess I touched a nerve there...

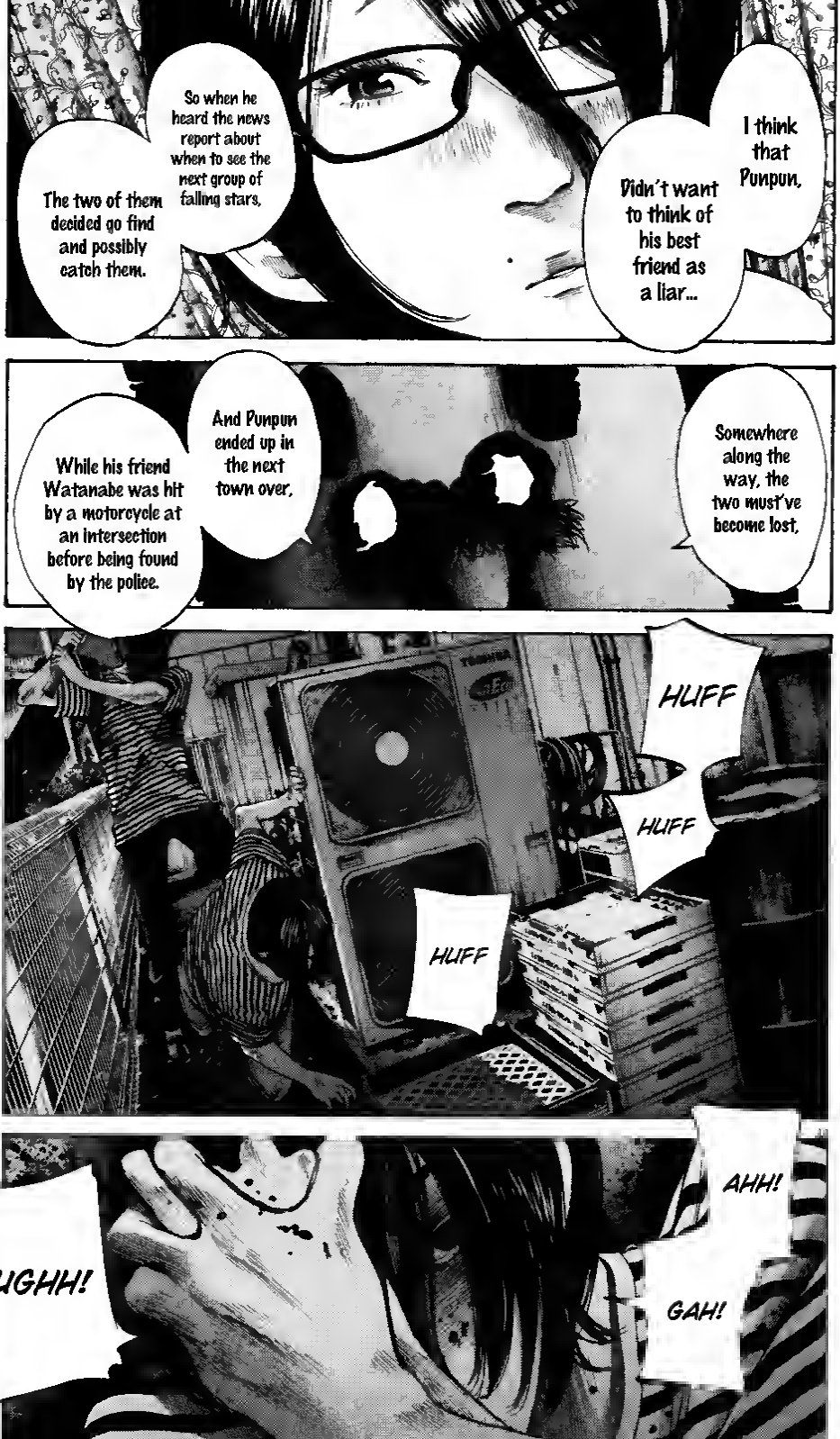
Oho! Looks like he likes you!
Hee hee, kids are so warm!


It wasn't the first time Punpun had gone missing...
I just remembered...
Ah-
I think it was back when Punpun was in the 2nd grade...

That gave everyone quite the panic I recall...
This time, he was chasing a shooting star.
And the police in the next town over finally manged to find him.

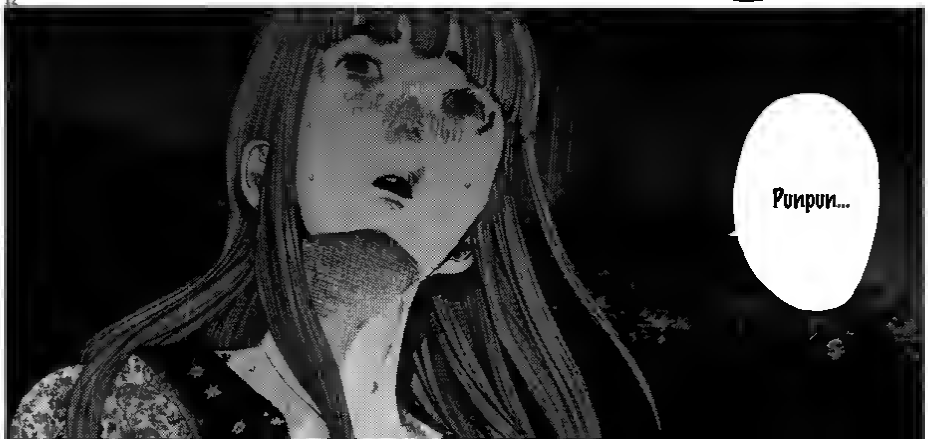

It was just another one of those silly little lies that kids tell but...
That he had once caught a falling star.
Apparently the boy had told his friends
There was this boy called Watanabe who was Punpun's closest friend back then

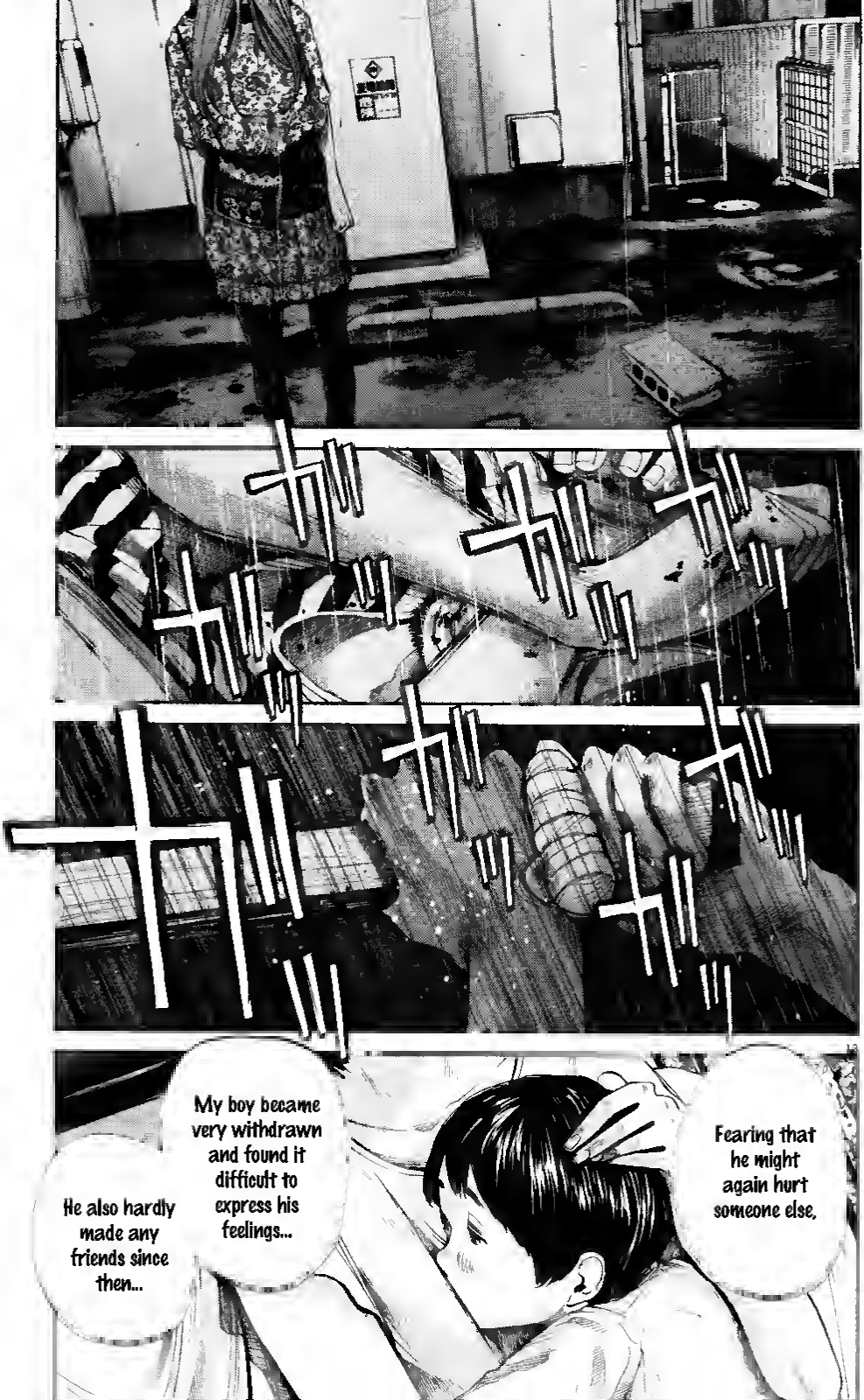
UGH!


I think that Punpun,
Didn't want to think of his best friend as a liar...
So when he heard the news report about when to see the next group of falling stars,
The two of them decided go find and possibly catch them.
Somewhere along the way, the two must've become lost,
And Punpun ended up in the next town over,
While his friend Watanabe was hit by a motorcycle at an intersection before being found by the police.
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
AHH!
GAH!
UGHH!

AGHHHHH!

Luckily the worst-case scenario was avoided and the boy wasn't seriously hurt,
But he had to miss school for quite some time.
As a result, Punpun became quite depressed...
He blamed himself for the whole incident.


Punpun...


Fearing that he might again hurt someone else,
My boy became very withdrawn and found it difficult to express his feelings...
He also hardly made any friends since then...

He was such a kind-hearted child...
Such a considerate little boy...
But you know
There are some hardships you just can't solve with kindness alone in this world-

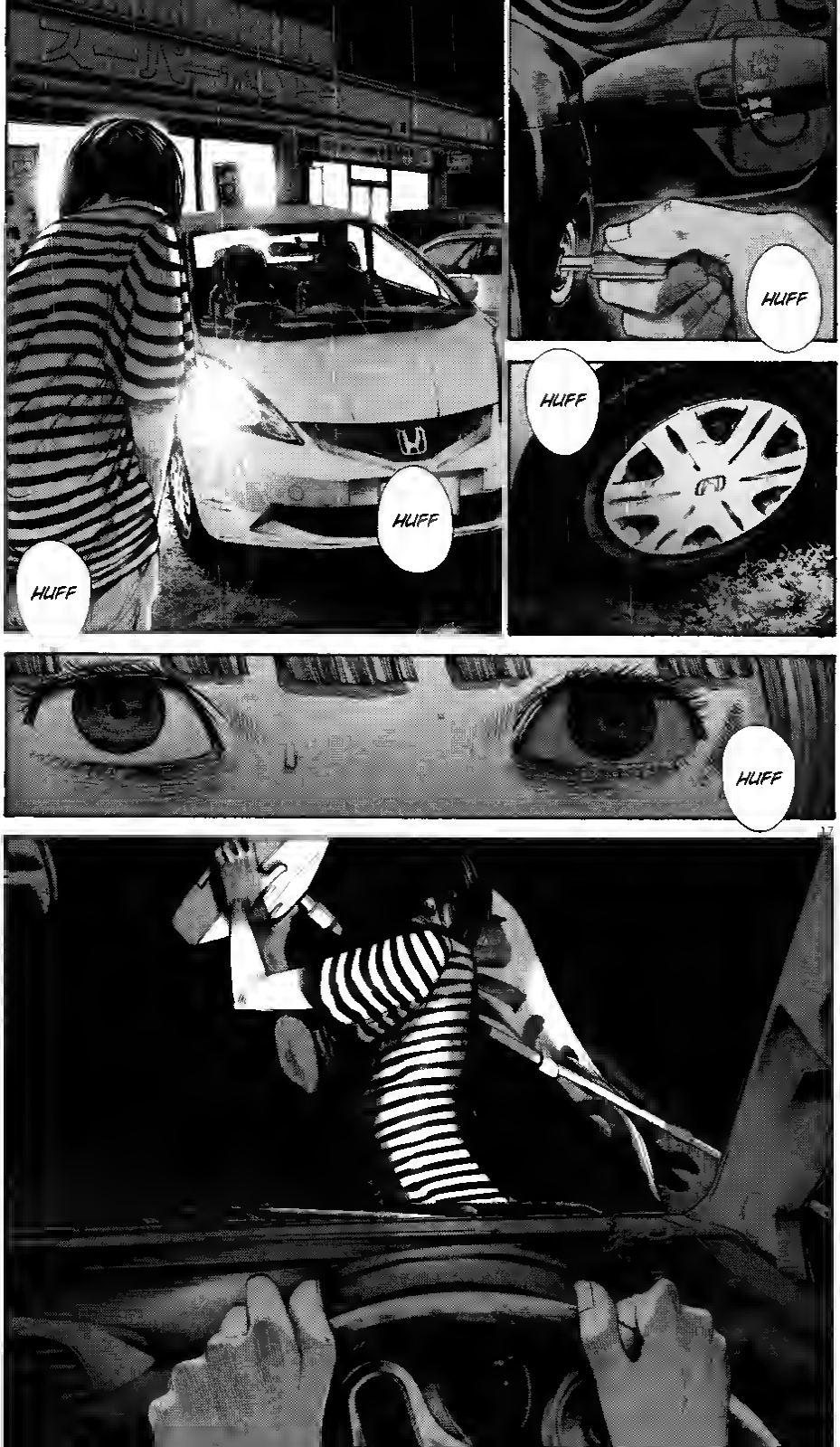
...Was I mistaken?
...Yes, I'm sure I was.
Why else would I be regretting it even now...!?
I really should've taught him,
That a person needs to to have some amount of selfishness to live a happy life...
A certain amount of irresponsibility is just necessary to make it in this world
But that child can be so stubborn, and once he decides on one thing, there's just no room to butt in and say otherwise...

Just what has been my life for...!?
Just what...

What's with you tonight, man, gettin' all weepy!
You rarely even talk about the past with us!
Hey, c'mon now!

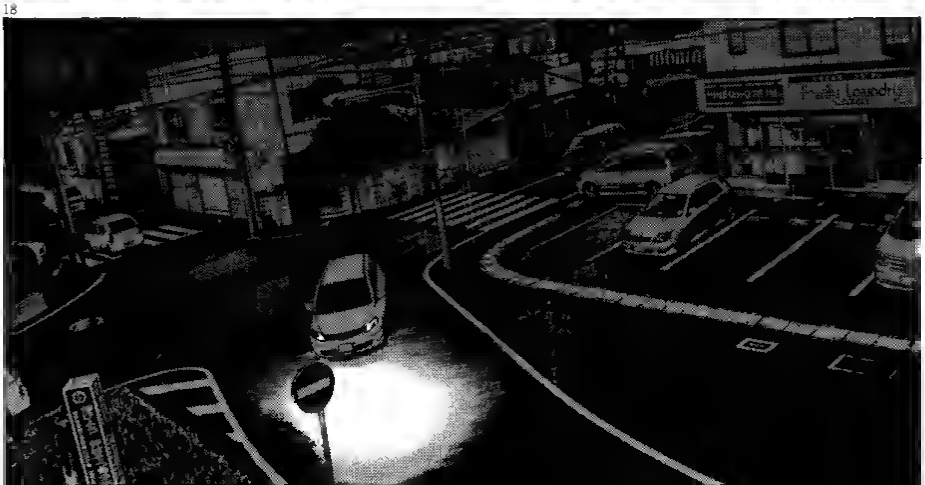
PUNPUN!
YOU CAN'T!
PLEASE STOP!

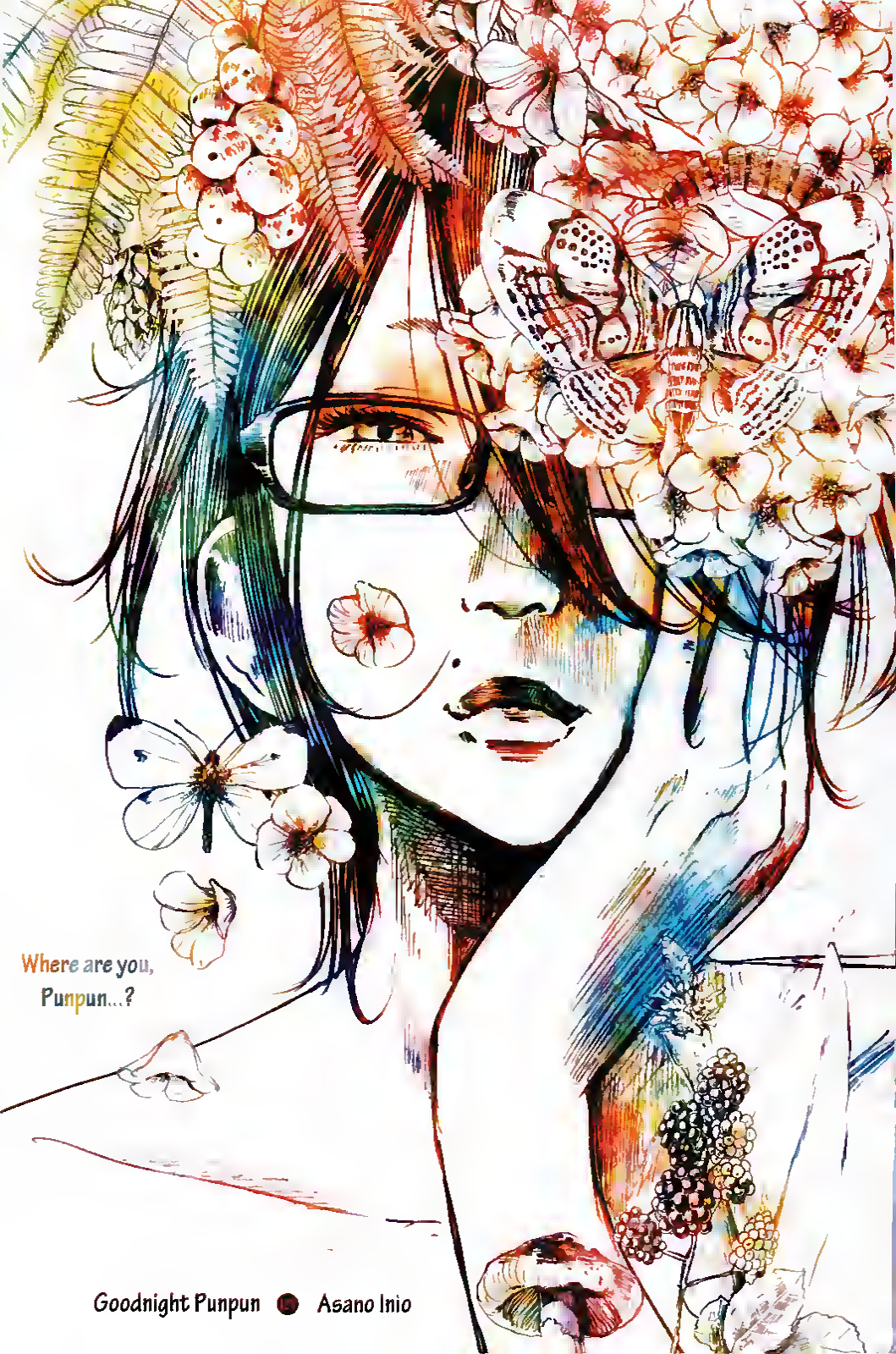
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
Let's...
Let's just leave... Okay?


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

KYAA
AAAA
AAA!

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

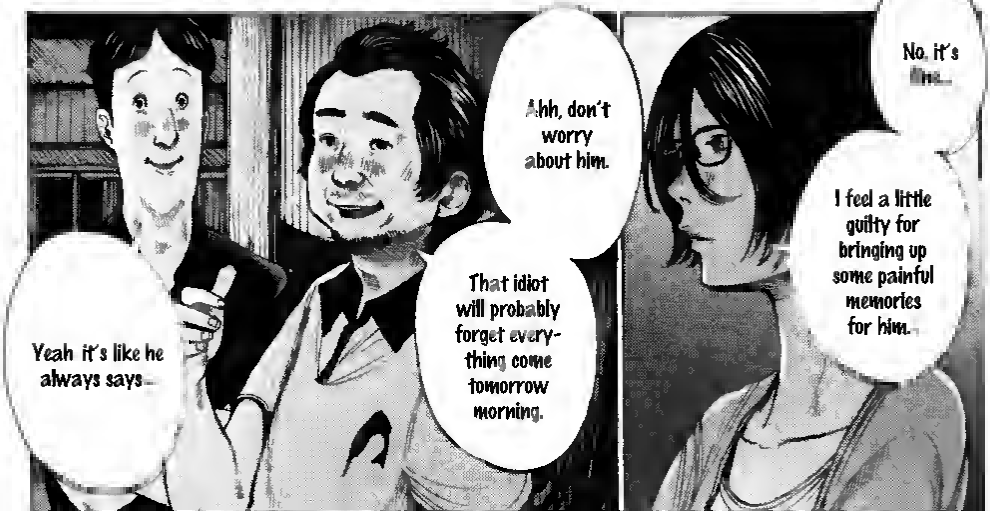


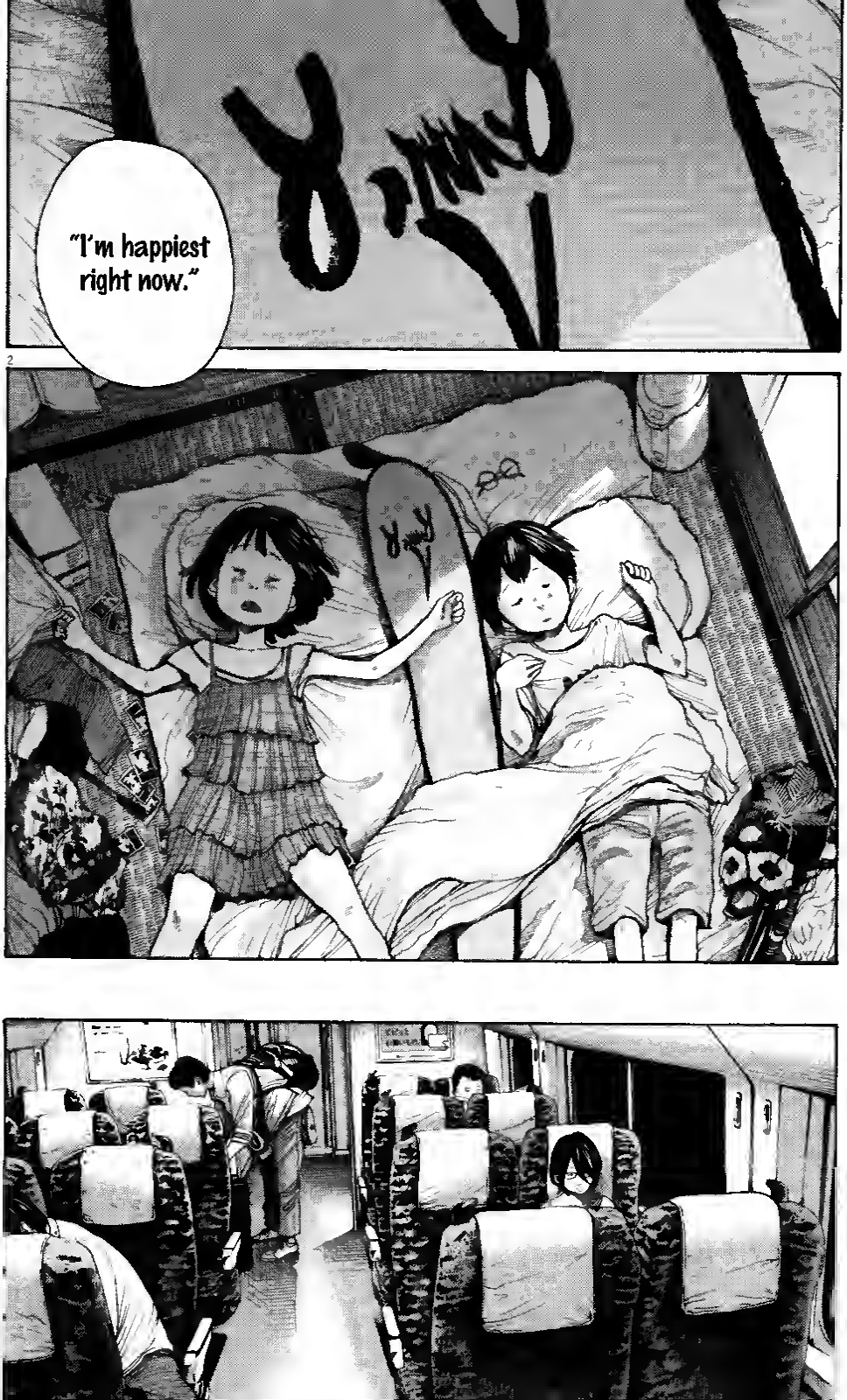

Where are you,
Punpun...?

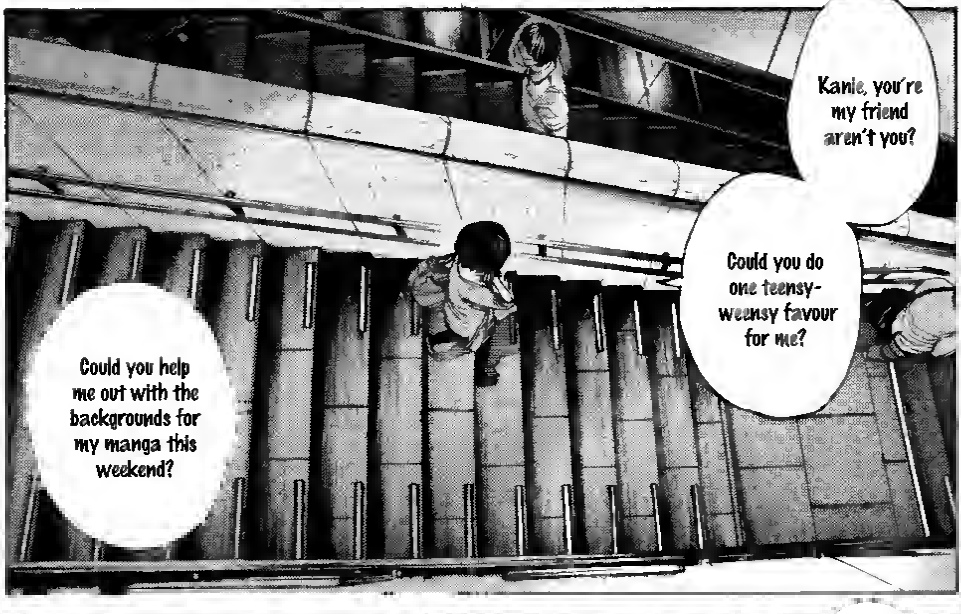
CHAPTER 129

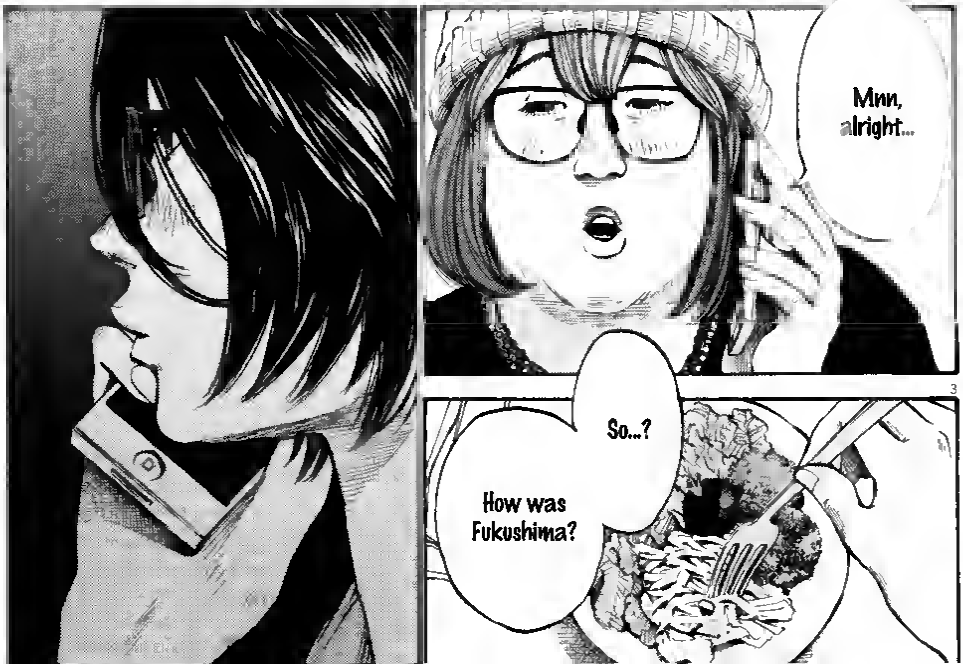
Hm?
We can drop you off if you want. It's pretty far from here to the station, you know.
This guy here's sober so he can still drive.

No, it's fine. I can call a taxi.
Alright then, your choice.
Should I wake up Punyama so you can say bye?


No, it's fine.
I feel a little guilty for bringing up some painful memories for him.
Ahh, don't worry about him.
That idiot will probably forget everything come tomorrow morning.
Yeah it's like he always says.

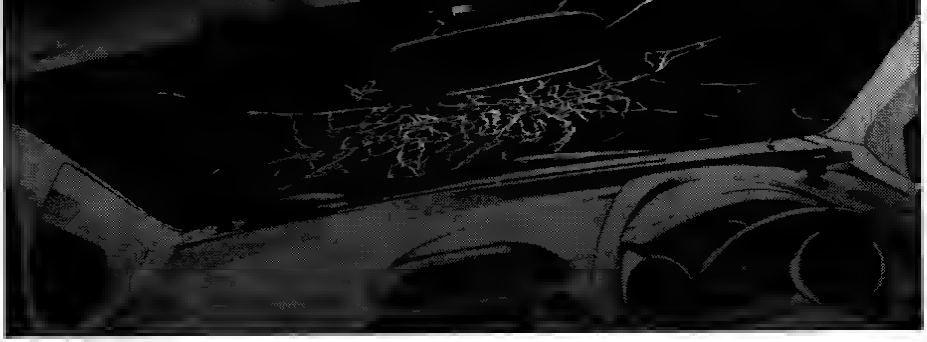

"I'm happiest right now."
2


Kanie, you're my friend aren't you?
Could you do one teensy-weensy favour for me?
Could you help me out with the backgrounds for my manga this weekend?


Mmn, alright...
So...?
How was Fukushima?

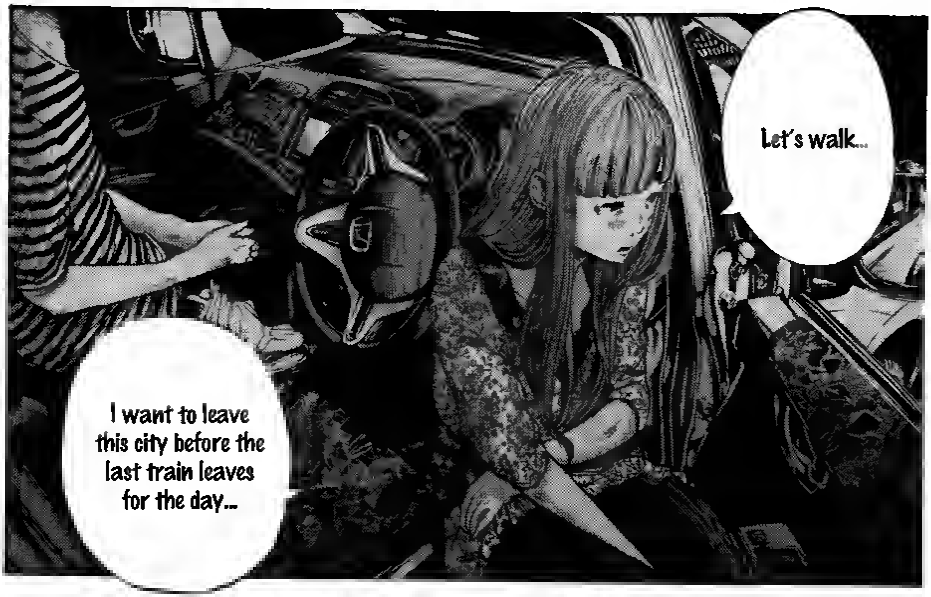
I think...
I've definitely gotta be the one to protect Punpun.

...Hah.
Is that so.



九州教諭ホール

ゴトン
ゴトン ゴトン



"...Aiko."

"...I was only trying to scare him off. He was the one who first tried to attack me with a cinder block."

"If I hadn't tried to scare him off, I could've been killed... That's why I wasn't acting strangely back there."
I think...
You've gotten a little strange, Punpun...
"...No, it's everyone else that's actually strange."

That's...
The same thing my mother used to say...

Once the stores open, let's go find a room to stay at...
I want to take a nice rest and change my clothes...
I'm tired...
It took quite a while.
Getting here to Kagoshima...

baiet

You know, I think you've gotta just die when the time comes.
That's why I'm going to do what I want in my teenage years, save up a whole bunch, and then use it up all in my 20s!
Sorry, but I gotta go now.
See ya tomorrow!

Aiko,
Don't worry...
この席は
The person who sits here will be cursed with bad luck forever
不幸に
I'll do my best...
As long as that dream comes true
I wouldn't mind if I dropped dead right then and there.

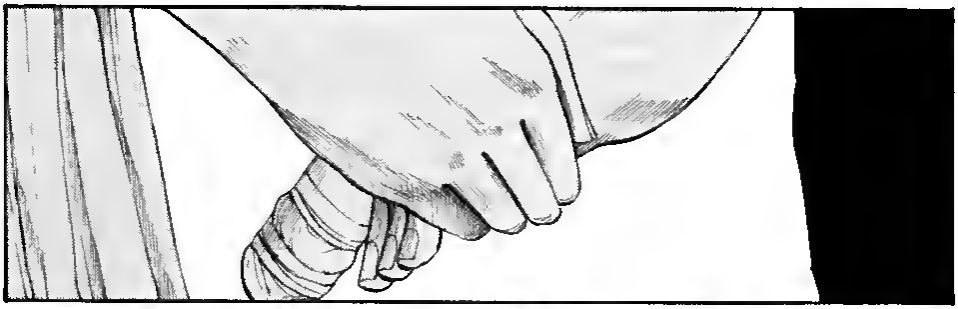
14

鹿児島中央
KAGOSHIMA-CHŪŌ ST
きっぷうりば
総合観光案内所
コインロッカー
お手洗
AMU PLAZA KA

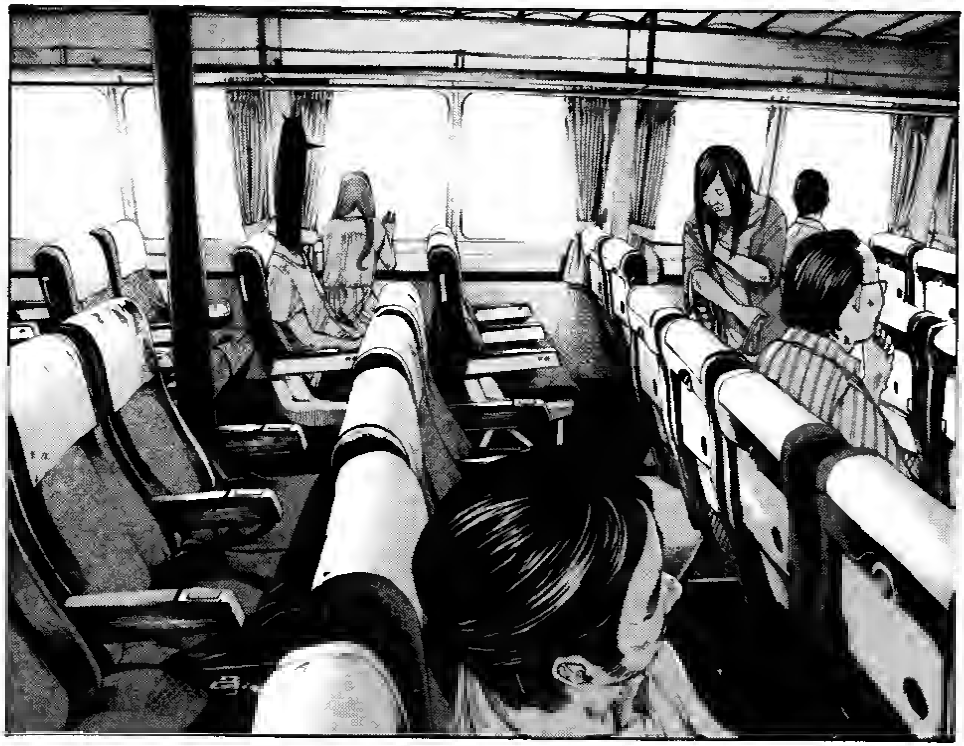
Punpun.
I told you to stop wandering off on your own...
What were you doing, leaving your wallet and backpack behind...?
"I should be the one lecturing you. You know that you need to get more rest."
...What were you up to?

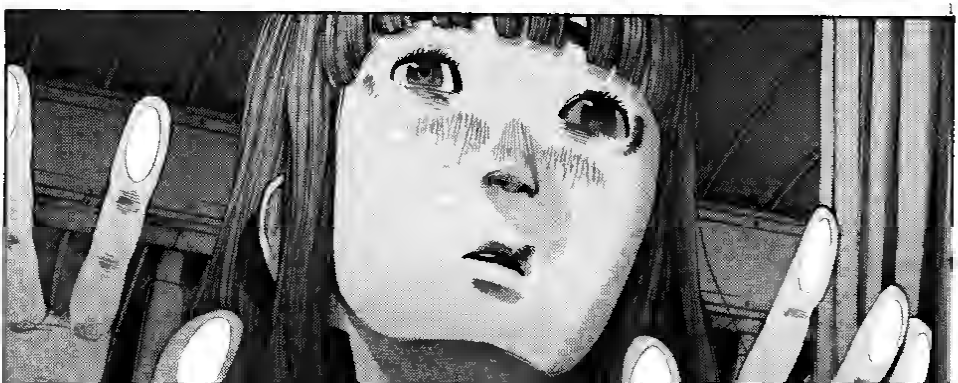
至種子島・屋久島・奄美
Tanegashima?
(laughs)
Sure.
Let's go there.
AHAHAHA HAHAHA HAHAHA!

トッピー
Ibusuki Harbour Waiting Area



CHAPTER 130





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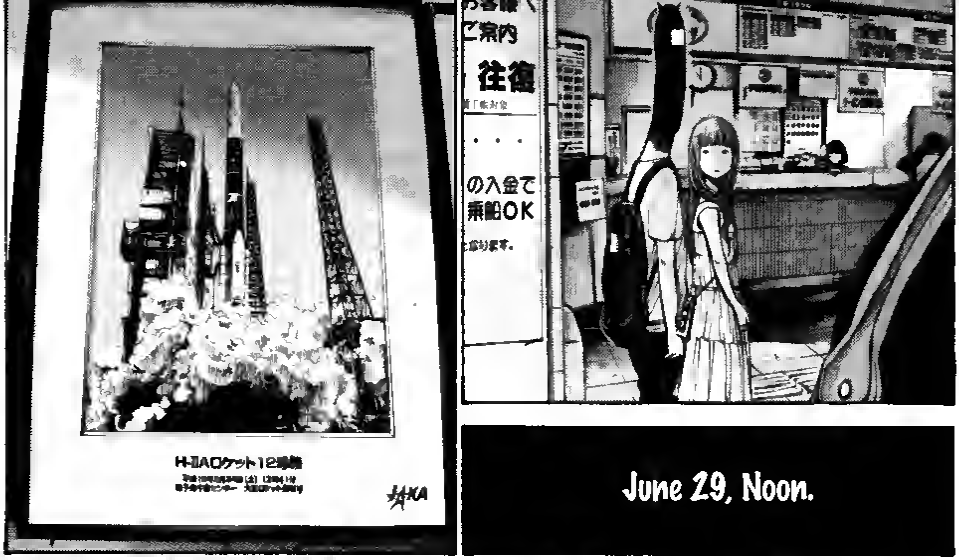
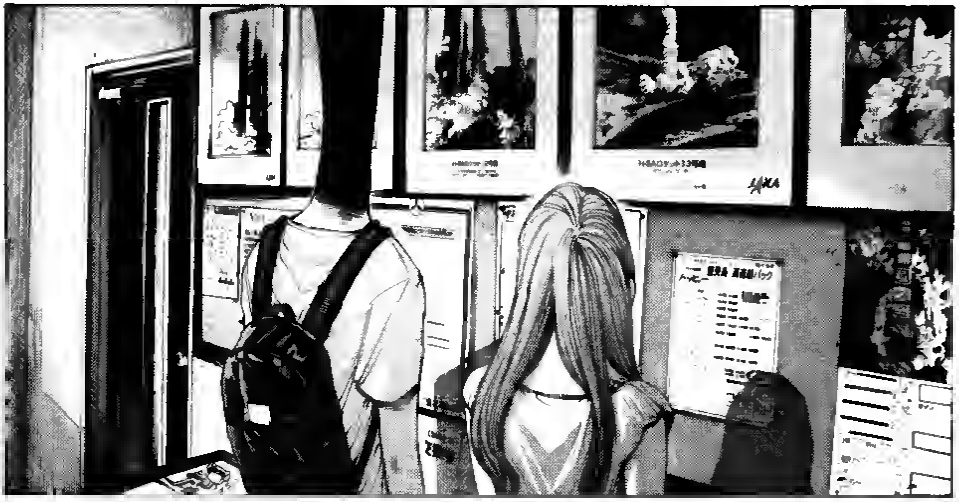
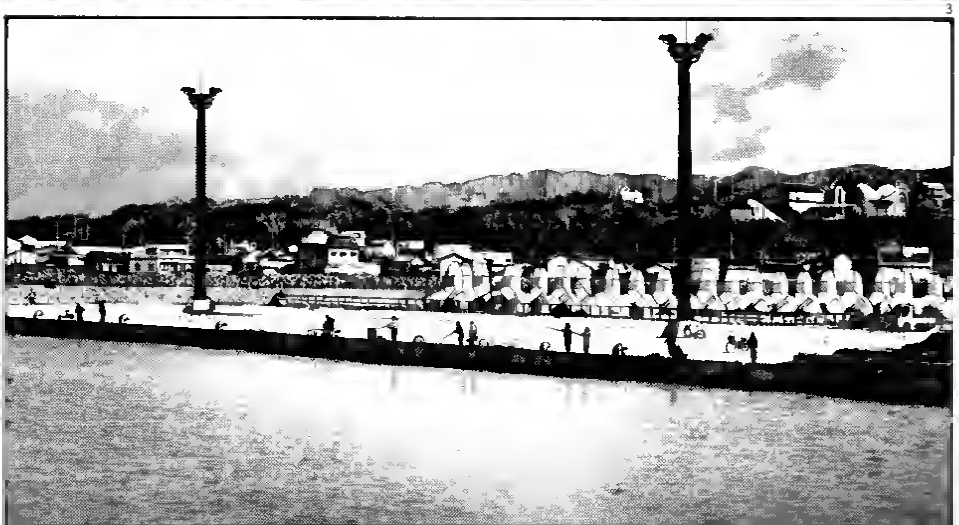
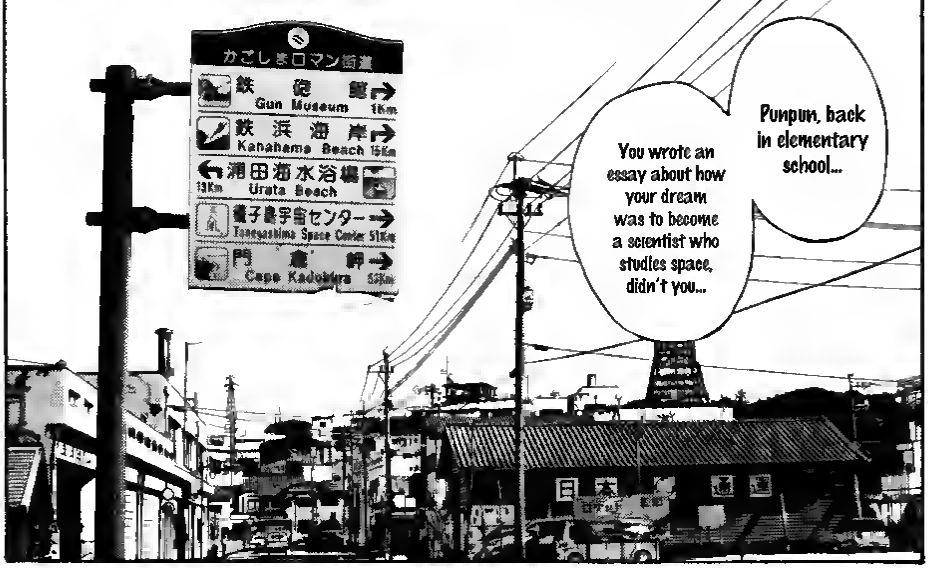
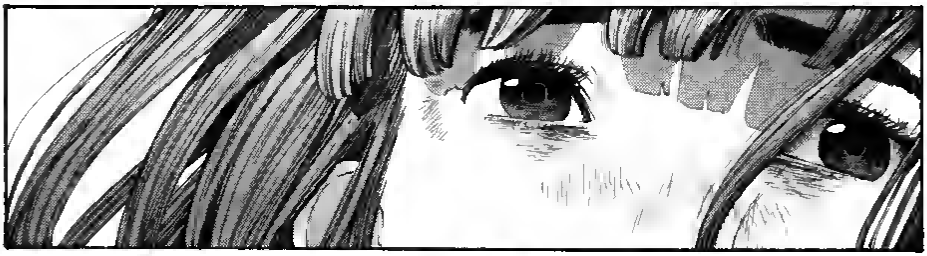

H-IIAロケット12号機
往復
の入金で
乗船OK
June 29, Noon.

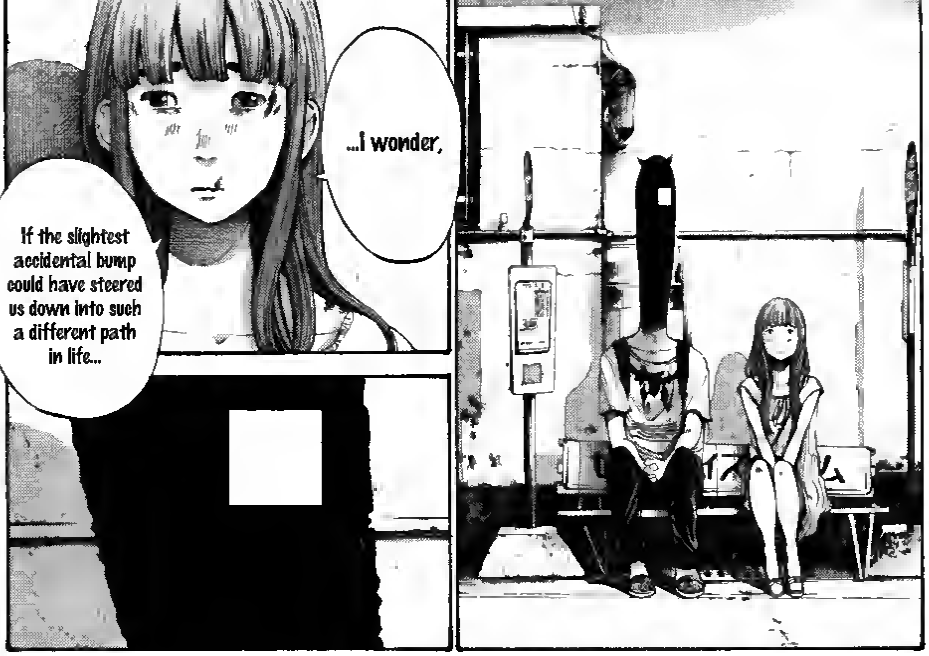




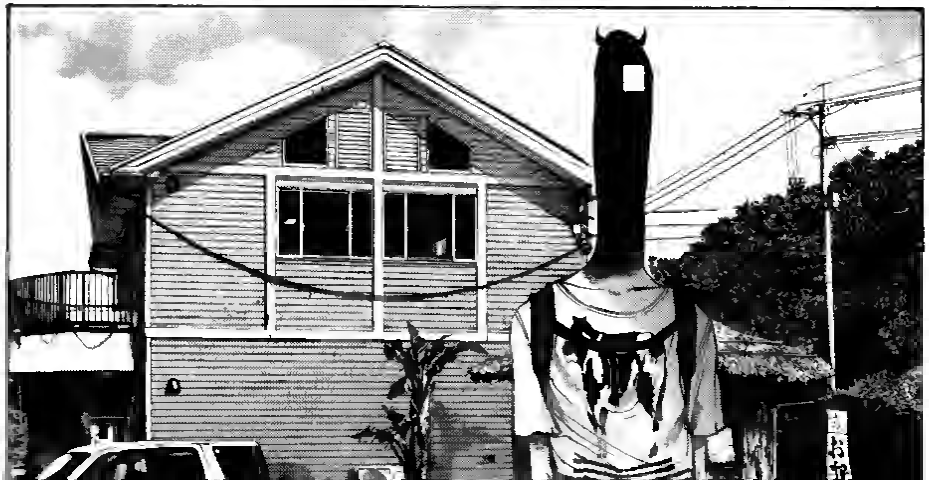

かごしま口マン街道
鉄砲館 Gun Museum 1Km
鉄浜海岸 Kanahama Beach 15Km
浦田海水浴場 13Km Urata Beach
種子島宇宙センター Tanegashima Space Center 51Km
門倉岬 Cape Kadokura 55Km
You wrote an essay about how your dream was to become a scientist who studies space, didn't you...
Punpun, back in elementary school...

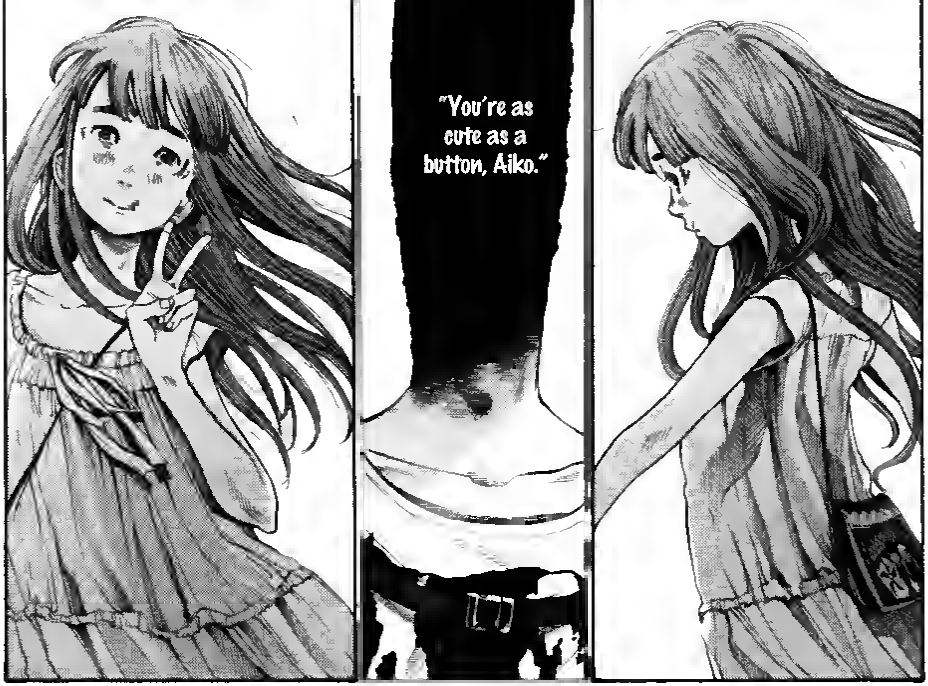


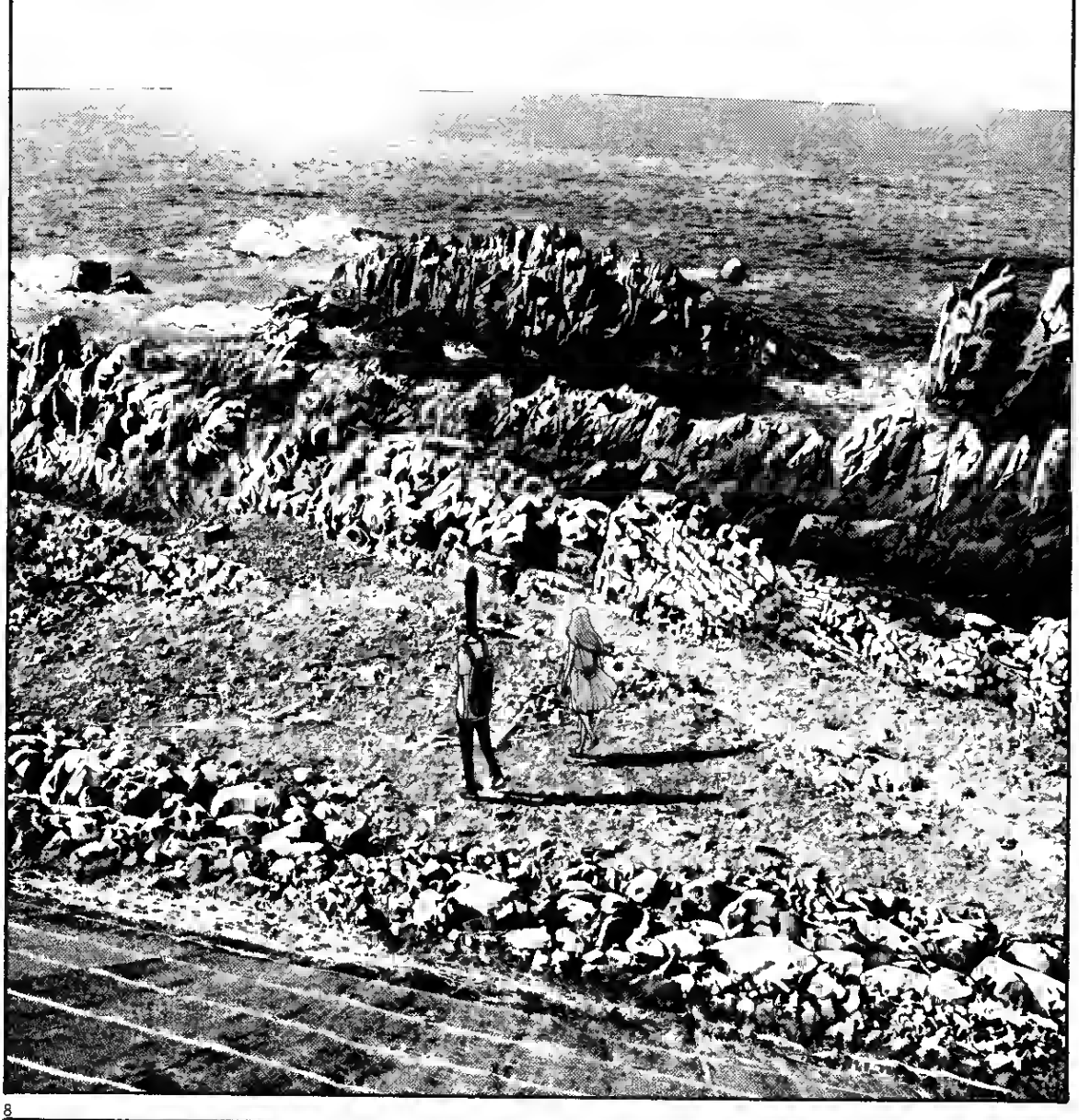
歓 ようこそ種子島へ 迎
楽しい 思い出を
ゆっくり
That takes me back...



"...What's the use in talking about pointless ifs and if nots right now?"




"You're as cute as a button, Aiko."



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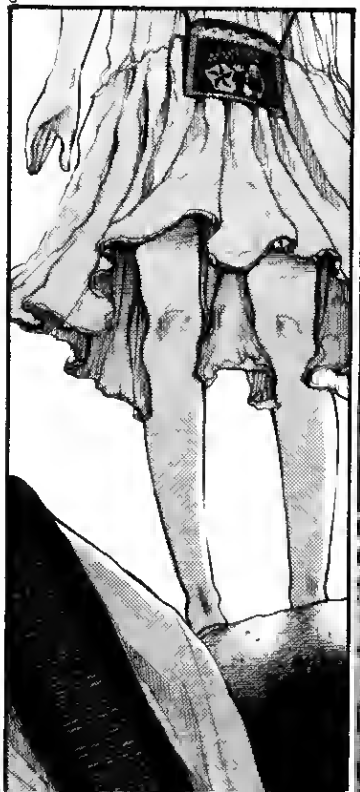
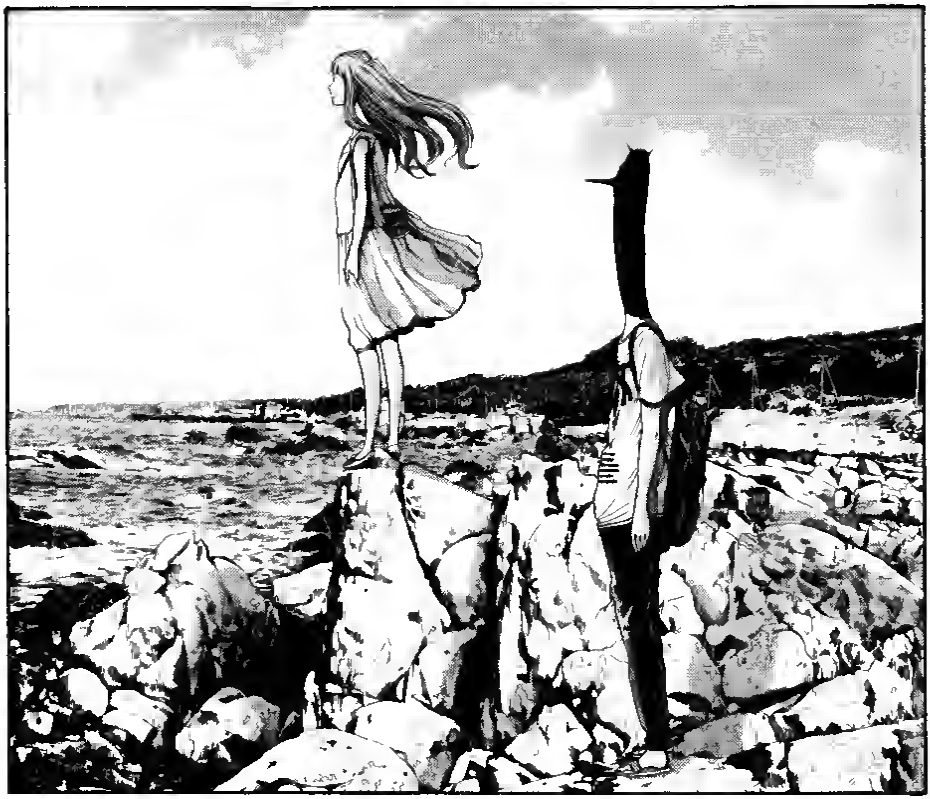
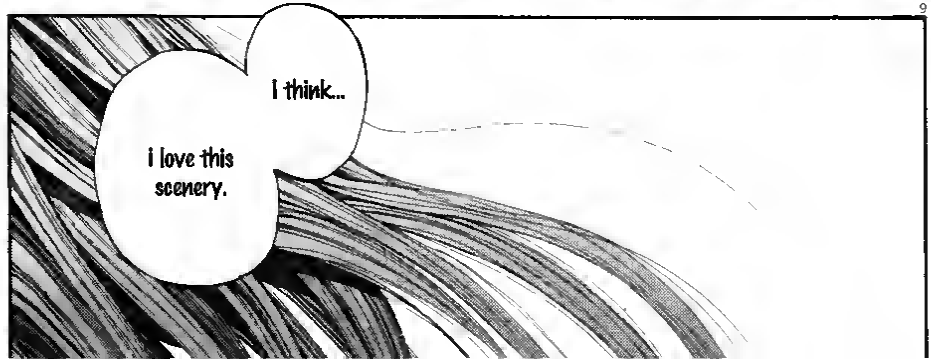
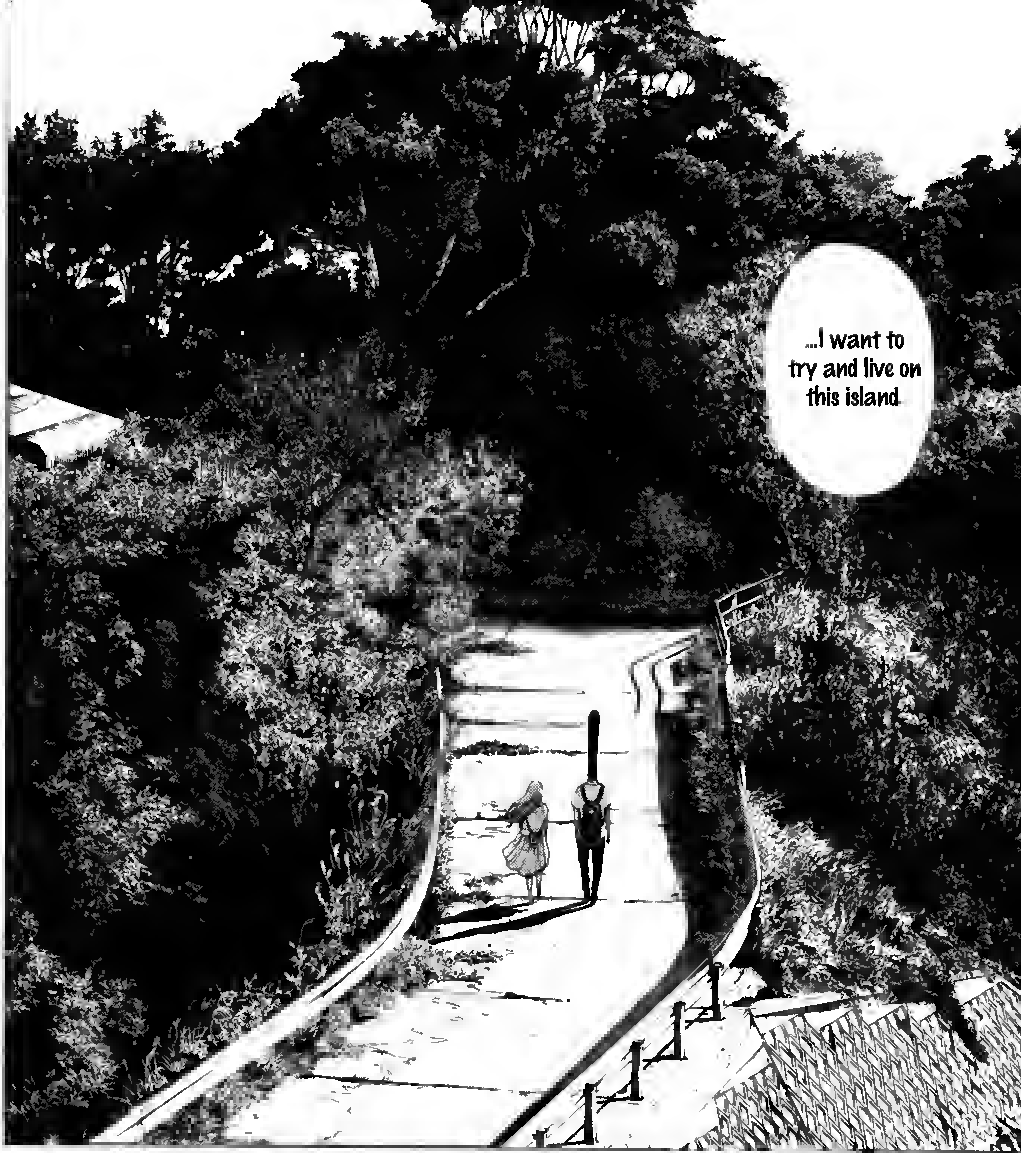




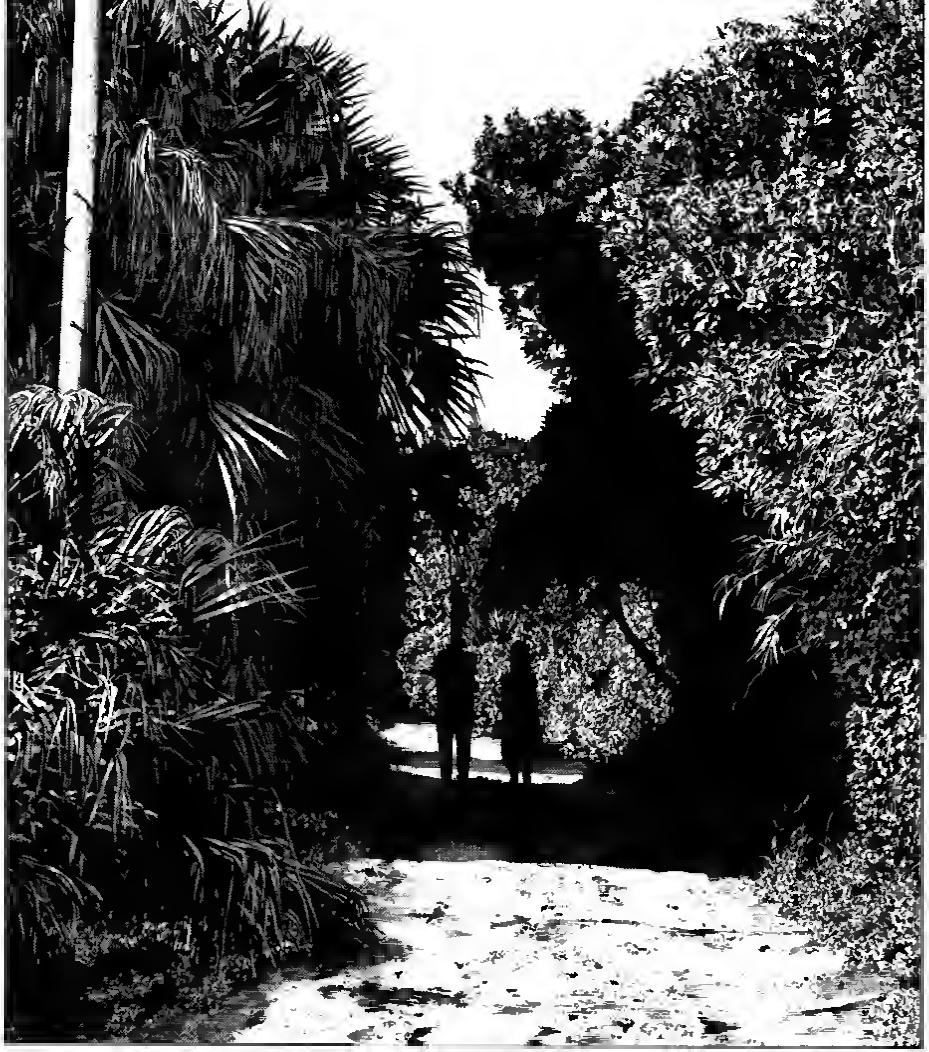

I think...
I love this scenery.


...I want to try and live on this island.

Living a carefree life,
In a place surrounded by nature...
I know making a living will be harder than I'm making it sound.
But if we work together...

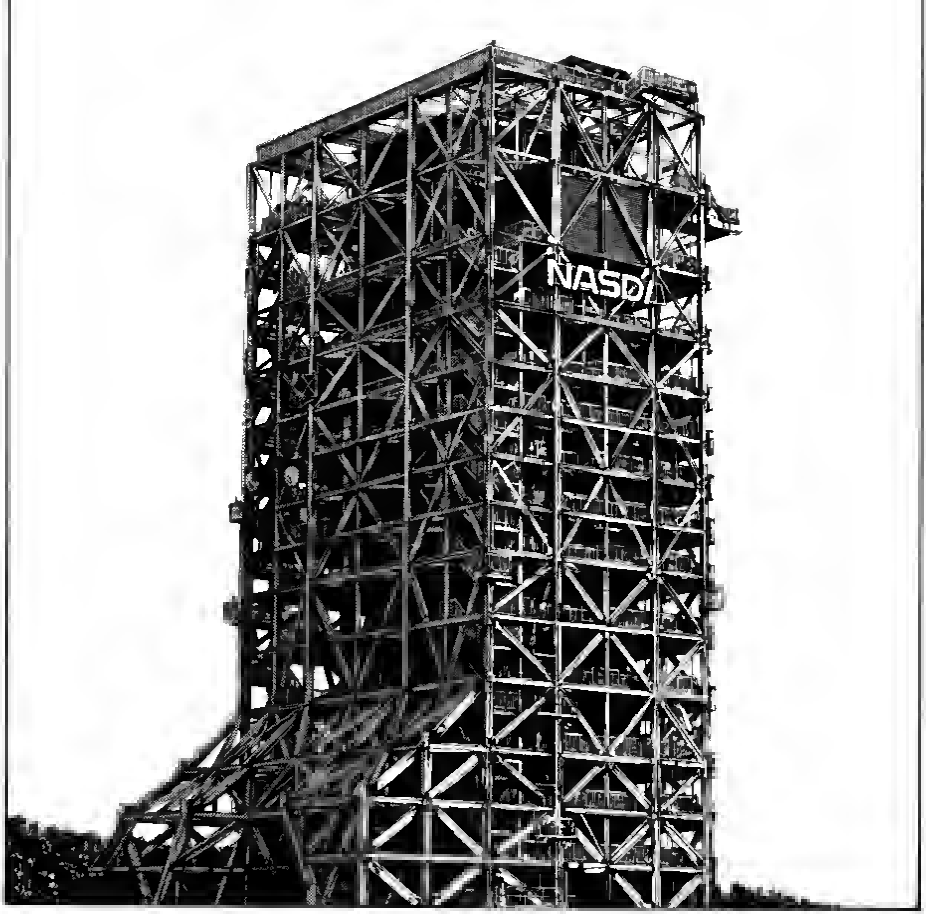
Even a small one-room place would be fine. And if there's a small garden,
Then we could try growing our own food and being self-sufficient as much as possible..

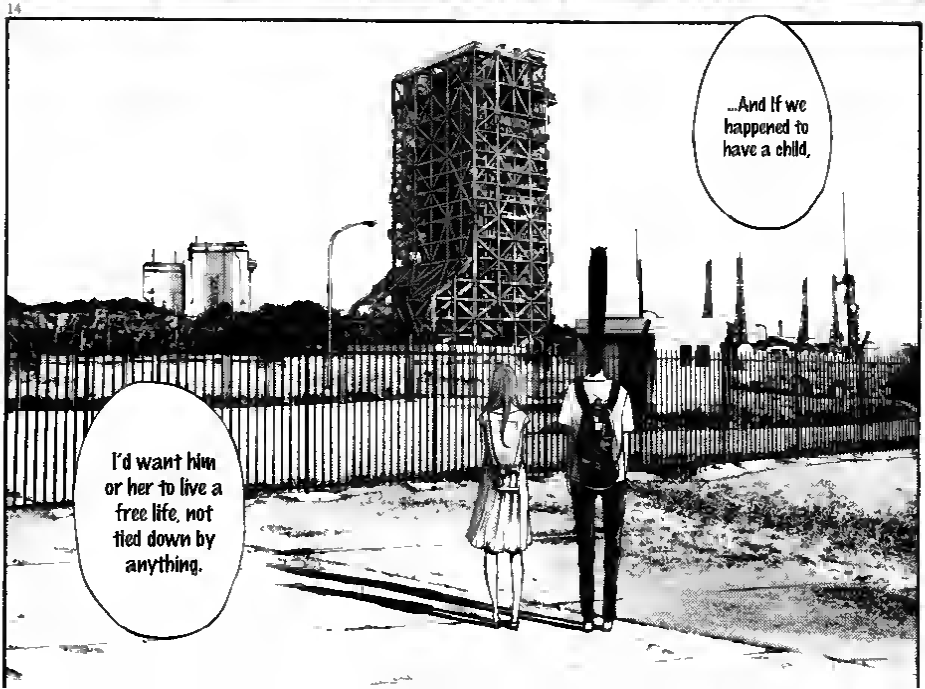
Rarely involving ourselves with others..
Just living together by the sea...



12

Look...


NASDA

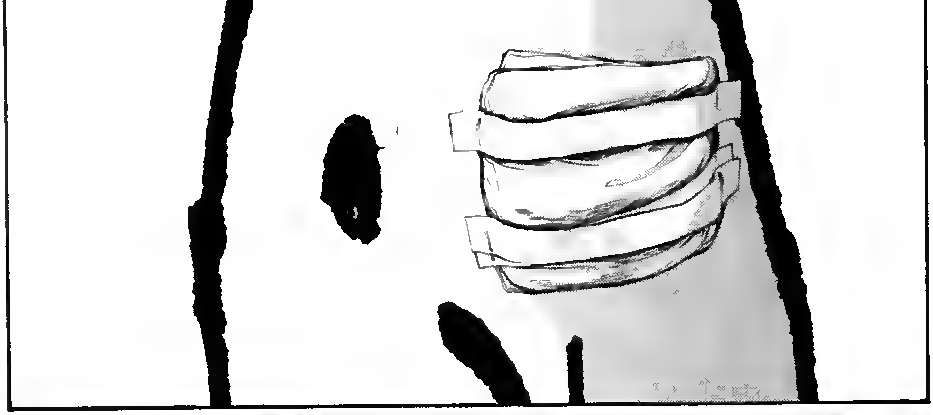

...And if we happened to have a child,
I'd want him or her to live a free life, not tied down by anything.

"...I told you it's pointless talking about ifs and if nots."

"...But,"

"...You know, I feel really happy right now. I'm so glad I was able to meet you in this life."

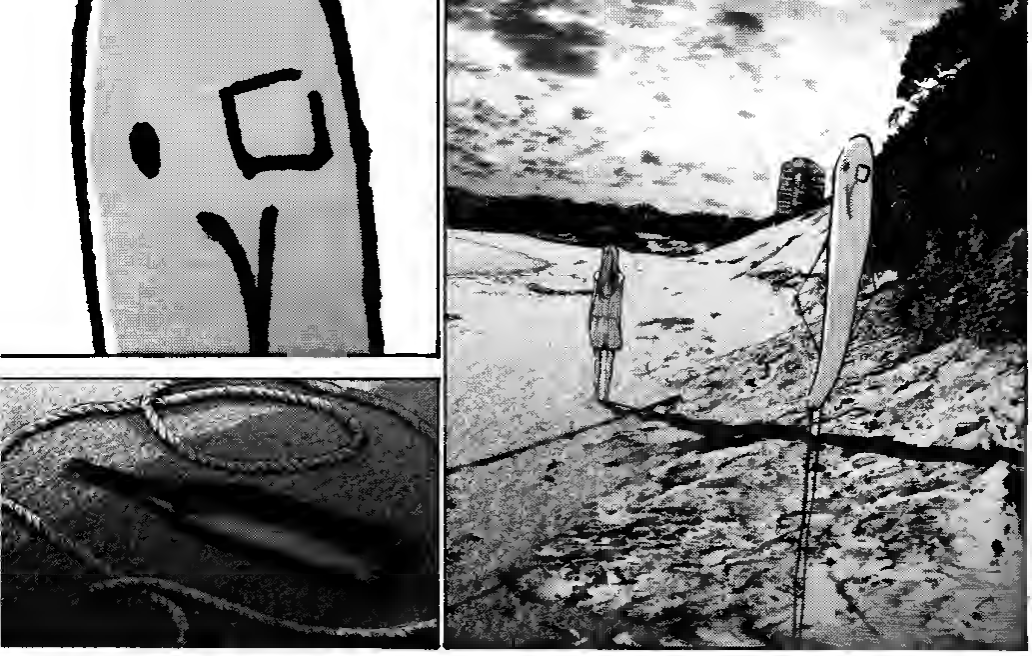
"I do think it'd be nice if there could come a time when we could just have fun talking about ifs and if nots, no matter how pointless it is..."

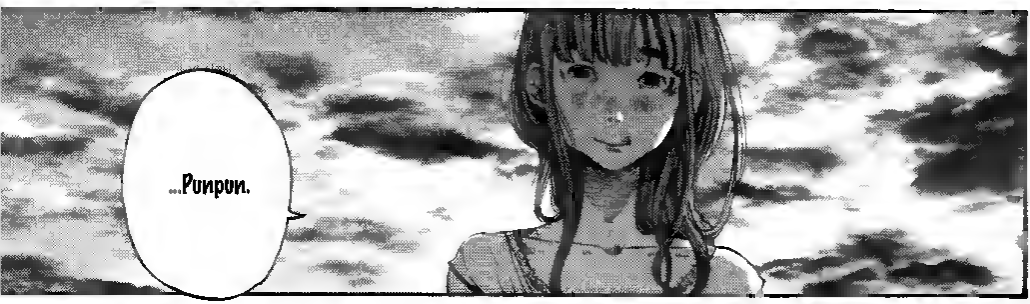


"Thank you."

CHAPTER 131

GOODNIGHT PUNPUN 12
ASANO INIO



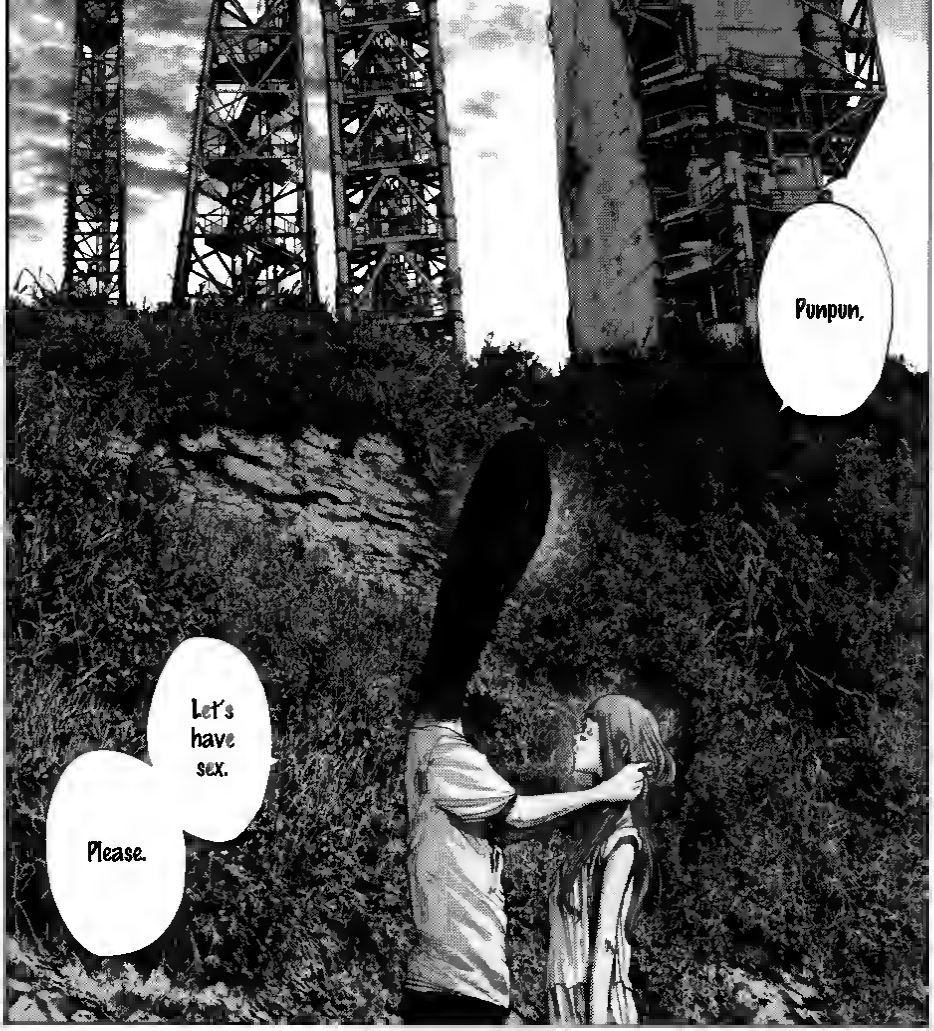

...Punpun.

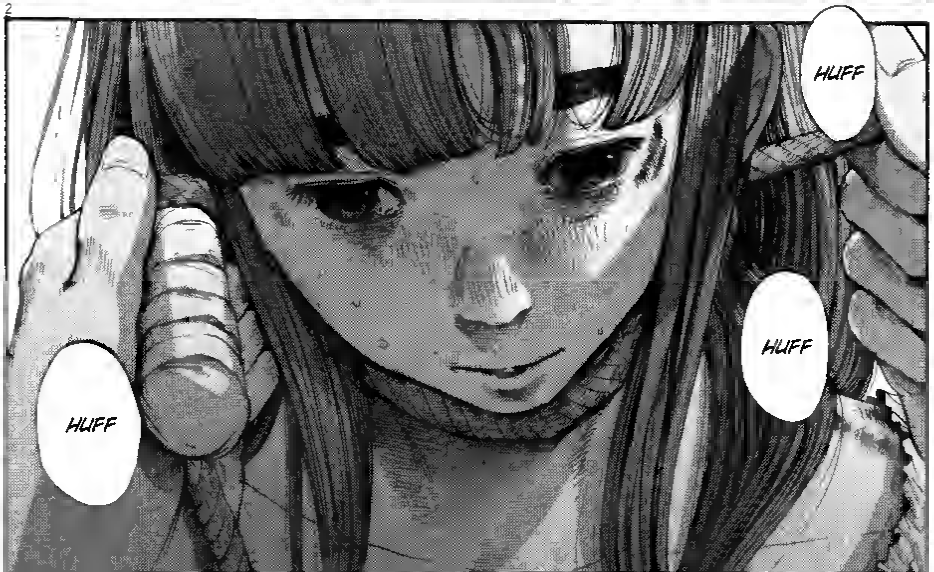
"...Yes."

CHAPTER 132

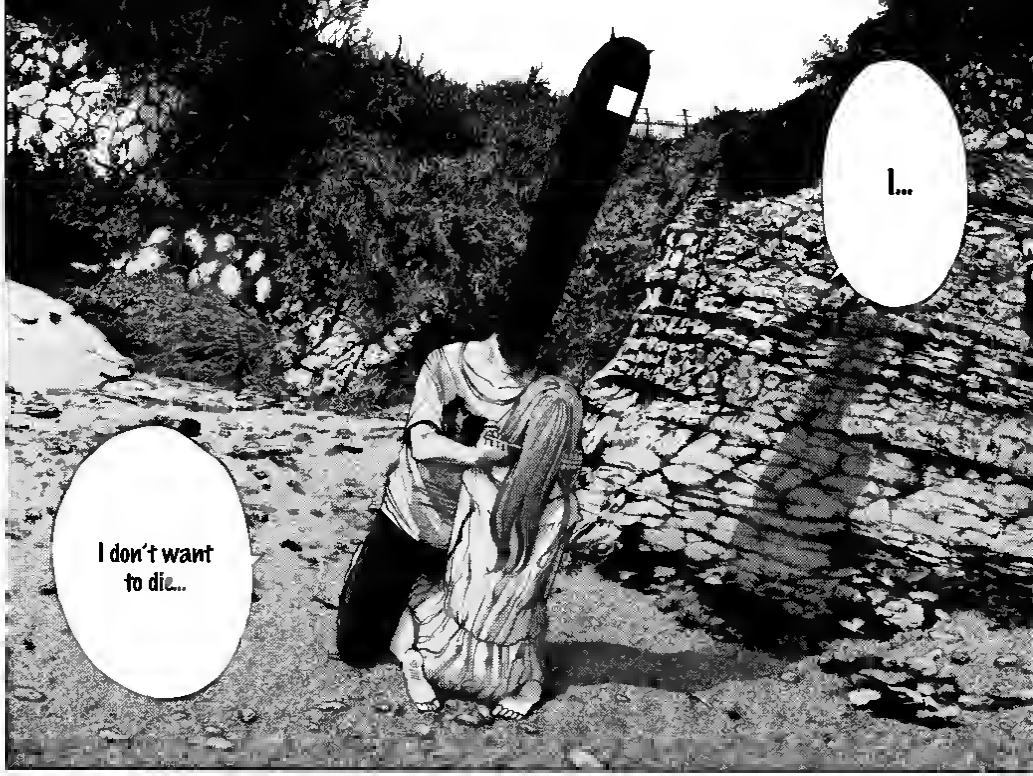
"...I'm at my limit too, you know."

"If you're that set on not wanting to be left alone, this is the best option."


Punpun,
Let's have sex.
Please.


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

"Don't worry. I'll soon join you in death..."
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
AGHH-
AHH...


I...
I don't want to die...

"...Why do you keep saying such foolish things?"
"If you really don't want to die, then just get away from me this instant!"
HUFF
HUFF
I don't... Want to die...

"...I don't need your concern. I'm satisfied with my fate."

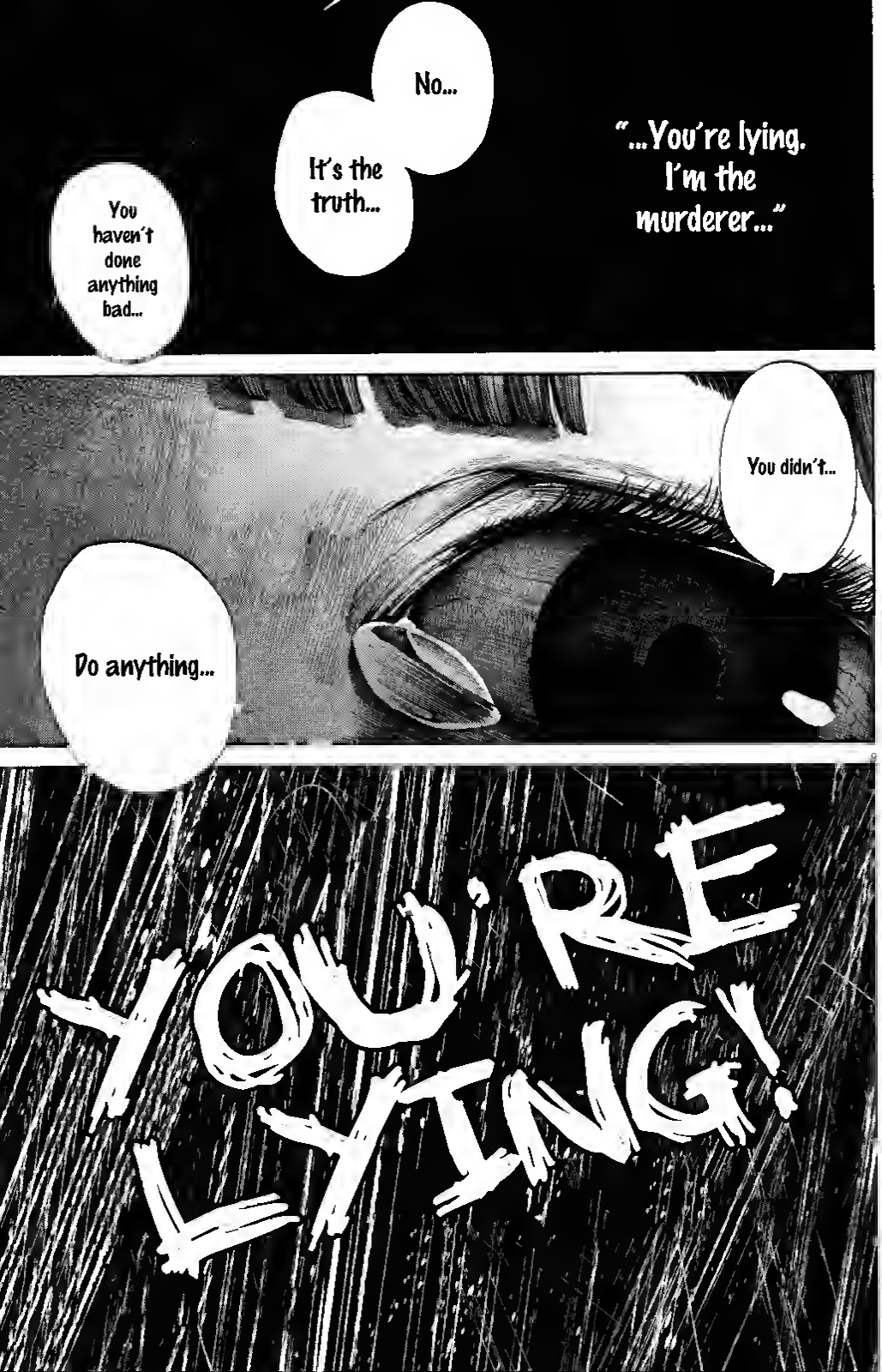
But if I went off somewhere by myself...
I could tell all along you've been wanting to commit suicide.
You're going to... Kill yourself aren't you...?
But you can't Punpun. You can't...

"I threw away everything in my life to save the person I love. I couldn't have lived a life more meaningful than that!"

No...
That's just an excuse...
A dishonest belief...
It's not normal for a living person to suddenly end it all...
No matter what...
You've got to keep on living.
...Please believe me when I say,
That there'll come a time when you'll be glad that you're alive.
"...There's no bright future for a murderer."

You're...
Not a murderer, Punpun...
...After you strangled my mother,
I saw my mother regain consciousness and try to stand up...
And went to answer the delivery man,
So I used the kitchen knife I was holding in my hand to...
"...You're lying."

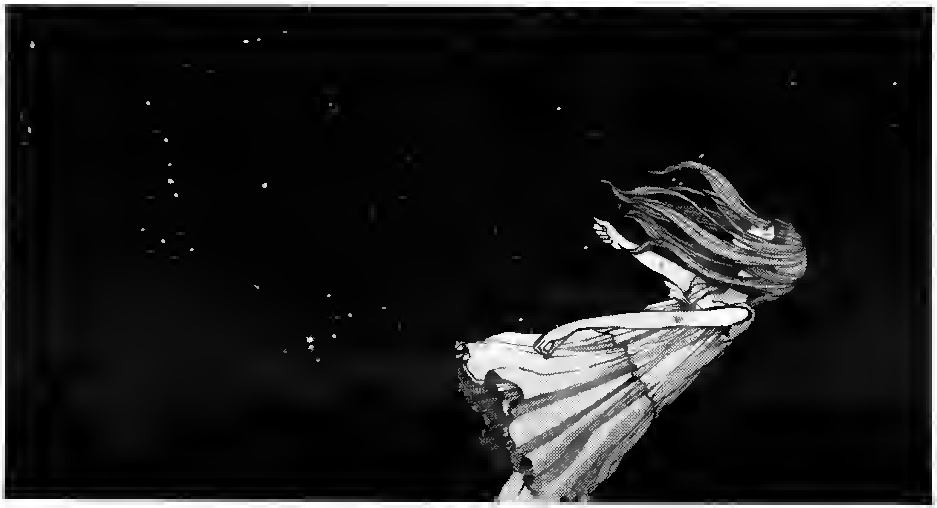
I stabbed her over and over again...
Until she was no longer moving...
"...You're lying."
I'm sorry...
I was just so scared that the words wouldn't come out...
I'm sorry I didn't tell you until now...
I won't try to chase after you
...But now that you know, you can return to a normal life.
And I'll handle the rest alone so...

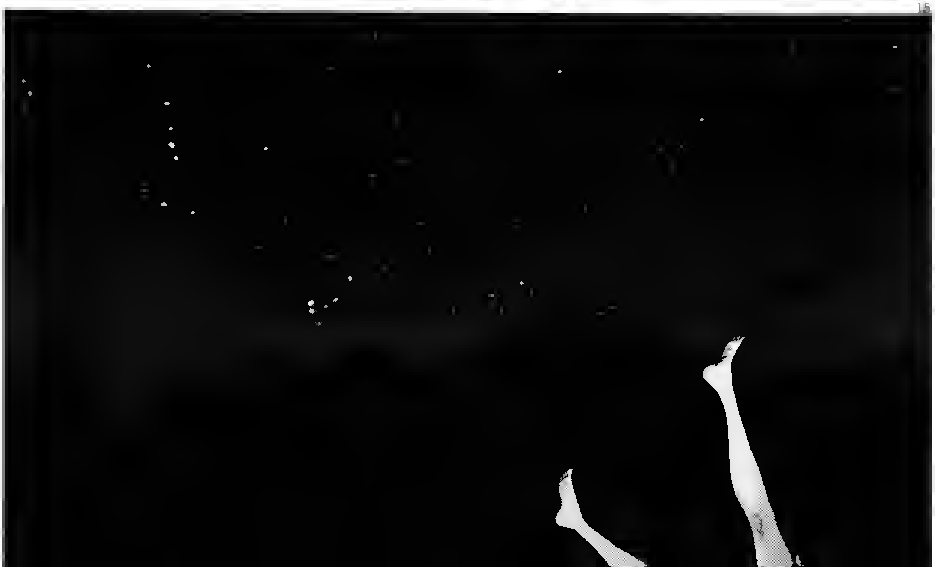

No...
It's the truth...
"...You're lying. I'm the murderer..."
You haven't done anything bad...
You didn't...
Do anything...
YOU'RE LYING!

I'm the one that became a murderer...
You just happened to be standing by me...

I'm sorry...
I'm so sorry...
But I'm glad
That I was finally able to tell you...

14





...What're you going to do from hereon?
I'm not going to the police.
I'm staying on this island...

"...You always steal everything away from me."

...I guess so.

"It's a chant to make god appear before you. My uncle taught it to me when I was young."

What's that?

"Dear God, Dear God, Tinkle Hoy."

"I wonder when it was... that I realized talking with god was merely talking to my own self."

"...Aiko, let's get married."

Now how would I know that...

Punpun...
You're so strange.

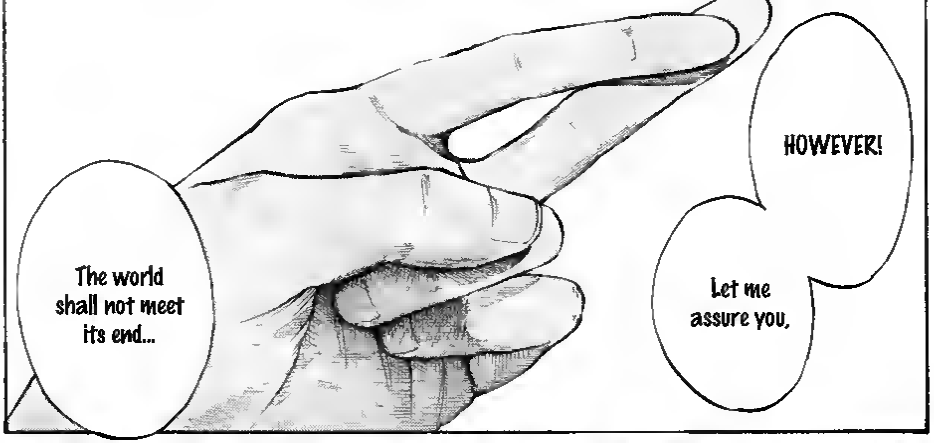
It'd be nice if every thing else
Would just vanish into nothingness...

歓迎
ようこそ種子島へ
ゆっくり宿って西之表
楽しい想い出を!
鹿児島県・西之表市・西之表市旅館業組合

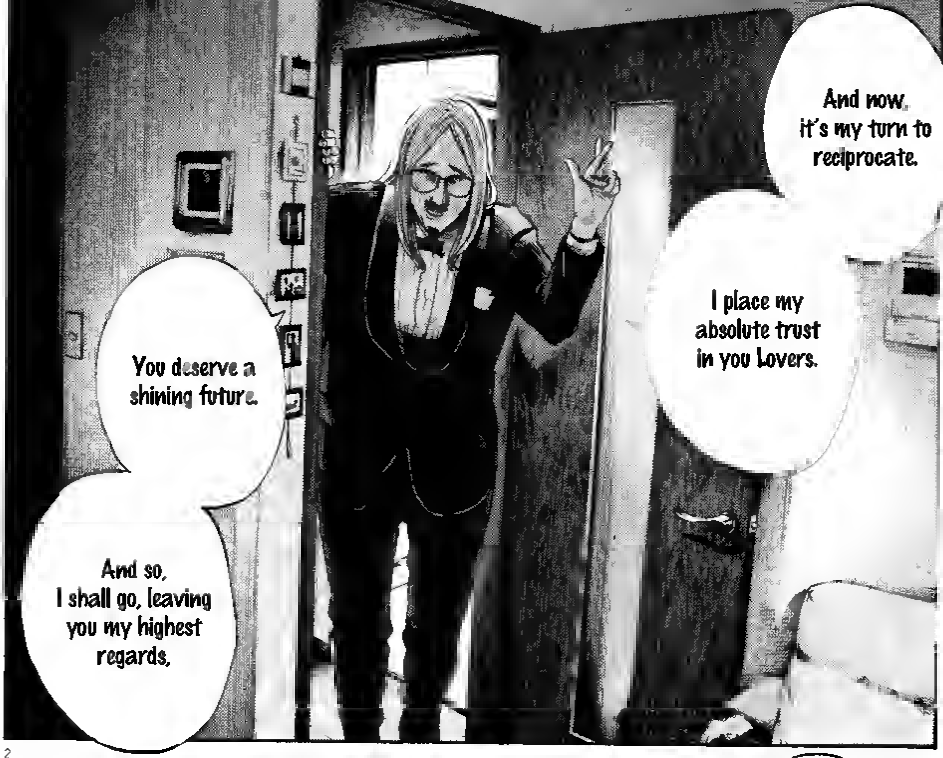
Where will you go,
Punpun...?

セイカアイスクリーム

CHAPTER 133


The world shall not meet its end...
HOWEVER!
Let me assure you,

For you SEE.
The great evil of the dark spot, which feeds off of people's delusions
Is now surpassed by my power...
Supporting me were none other than the two special words of trust by my comrades...


And now, it's my turn to reciprocate.
I place my absolute trust in you Lovers.
You deserve a shining future.
And so, I shall go, leaving you my highest regards,

And the special phrase of hope,
"Good Vibrations."

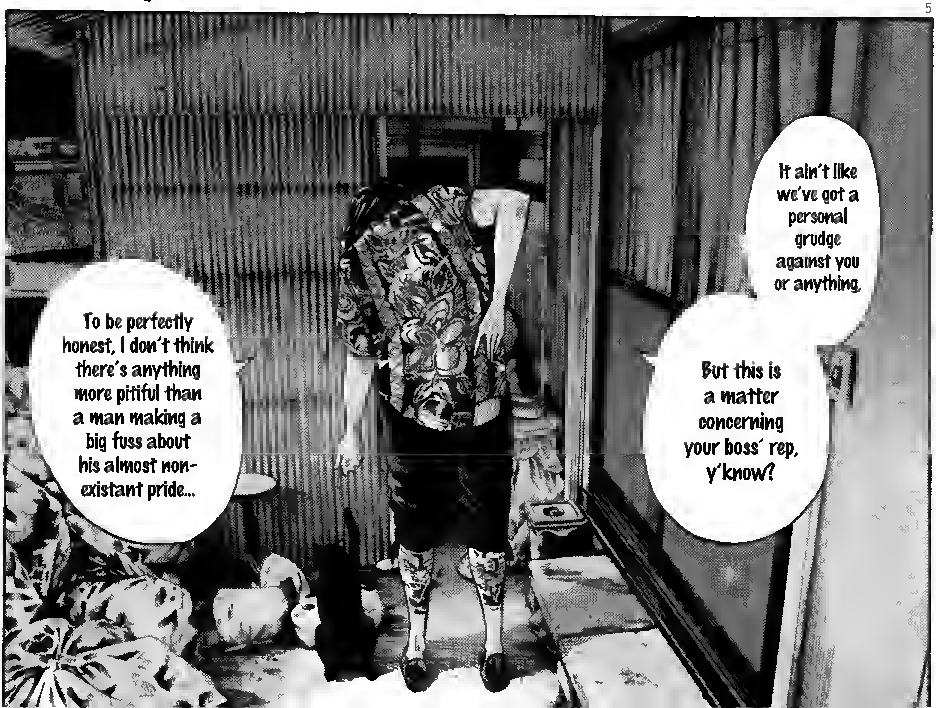
Pegasus...
I think we should get the party started soon.

But to be free from distrust can also be a source of strength, as they say...
At your complete innocent simple-mindedness.
...I'm sometimes bewildered.
...Wada.
I have your guidance to thank for everything.
But even so.
Do you honestly think that I'm not aware of your true plans...?
Oh my, oh my.
You truly may be fit to be god.

June 30, Midnight.

We were waiting here patiently without breaking your door.
Ain't we nice?

GAHH!


It ain't like we've got a personal grudge against you or anything.
But this is a matter concerning your boss' rep, y'know?
To be perfectly honest, I don't think there's anything more pitiful than a man making a big fuss about his almost non-existant pride...

Your folks run a lunchbox shop, don't they?
Your dad was also a pretty pathetic man too.
I'd rather you didn't go digging up into other people's past.
It's already been over 10 years since he ran that store.

You should've just played the good son and succeeded your family business.
...But maybe that was never possible, considering you're not so good with fire.

Haha,
You're actin just like my dog right now...
Whaddya say to a nice tatoo on your forehead using the electric stove in your place?
Ah-
You changed the stove in your girlfriend's kitchen into an electric one, right?
What, did ya have some sort of childhood trauma involving fire?

Seki...
Tryin' to act tough at the wrong times'll only cost you...
That's a great idea!
Go for it!

Let's get this wrapped up while it's still dark.
Better clench your teeth now!
Well time to get started then.

You know what.
Just kill me instead, please!

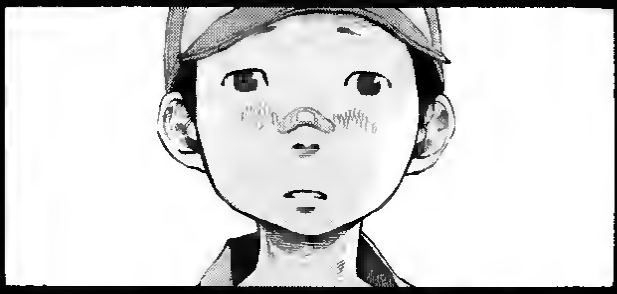
"...Today was a special case. I usually don't want to show unfinished rough drafts to others. But then again... It's not like I've ever done a finished-copy of my manga..."

"Hey! When can I read the next chapter!? And can I bring some of my friends next time!?"

"You're the lunchbox store owner's son, right? My mom also works at this factory so I'm sure we'll see each other again one day."

"...Well, you and I might be both adults by the time I finish this manga though."

"Well I'm going to take over my dad's store when I grow up so I'll wait as long as it takes!"



"It's a promise!!!"

Why didn't I try to talk to her...?
She was there back when we all went to that factory...
...That's right.
Talk...?
I bet she didn't even know who I was.
Ever since that factory went bankrupt
My life's gone straight down to the gutter...
...Sorry, Shimizu.
For some reason, I can hardly remember you from then...
Not a single thing going my way.
A shitty life not even worth killing...

...Yeah.
I guess it's all too late now...
I'm done with being tied down by the past...
I don't care if it's to another country or whatever.
Just somewhere not here...
I just...
Want to go somewhere far away...

Shiiimiiizuu!

You going over to that weirdo's place this early in the morning?

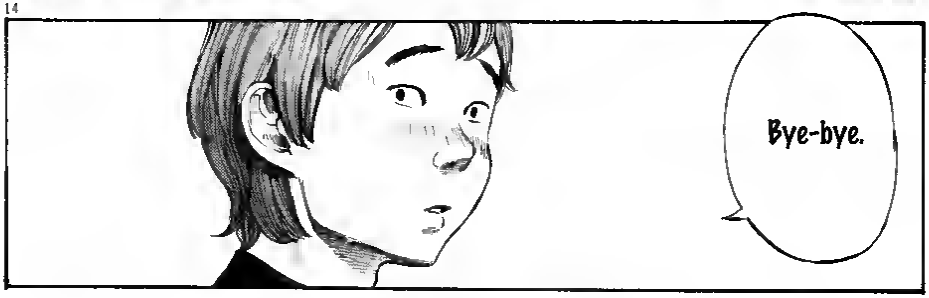
Don't get yourself involved any further. I'm seriously concerned about you.
This is the last time I'm warning you.
I don't know what kind of great deed your group is crusading for, but your little games ain't gonna change this world one bit.

I'm starting a pretty cushy job from today where all I have to do is push a button.
I have no idea what the button does but I have a feeling it'll start some sort of incident.
So how about we just forget all about this town and fly off to Tibet and become monks?

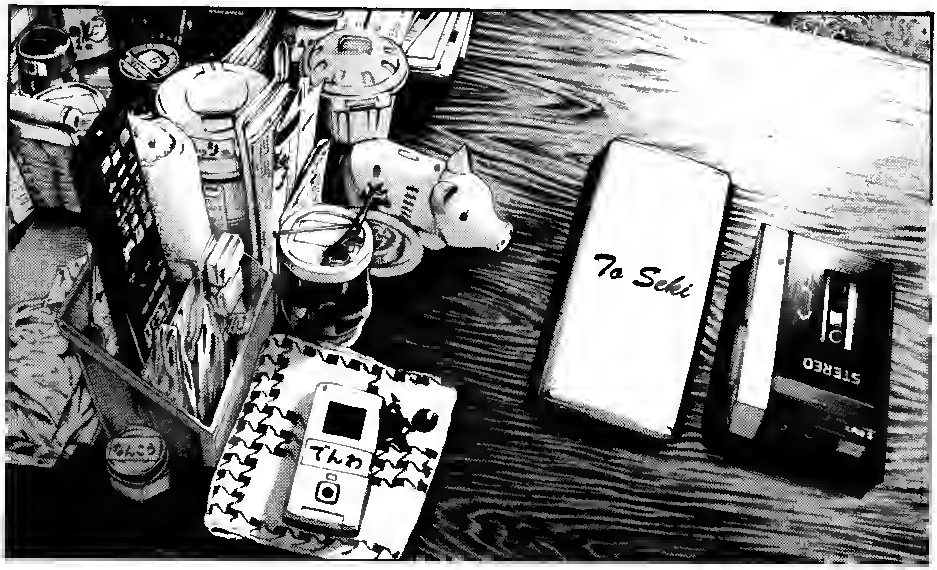
You're always telling me that it's all for my own sake but...
I...
I've already decided to be of use to someone else...
...I see.
See ya then, Shimizu.
In the end, the only one you ever think about is yourself...

But-

バイク進入禁止


Bye-bye.

Wada
Mr. Wada?
I'm here on time like you wanted...


To Seki
STEREO

Umm...

Washroom
The Helper comes every Tues/Thur/Fri at 1p m
Could you please turn on the tv for me...?
I don't know where Akinori's gone...

Oh.
It's right here...

Uhh...
Yeah, sure...

Please...
Akinori usually turns it on for me...

Umm...
You're Mr. Wada's mother, right...?
Akinori got perfect on his math test again yesterday.

You can go now.
Thank you, whoever you are.

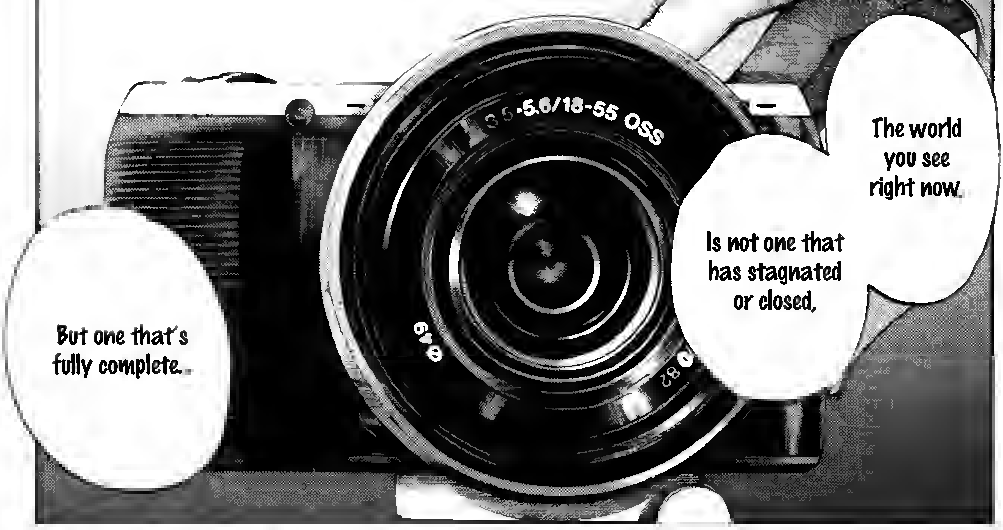
Ah-

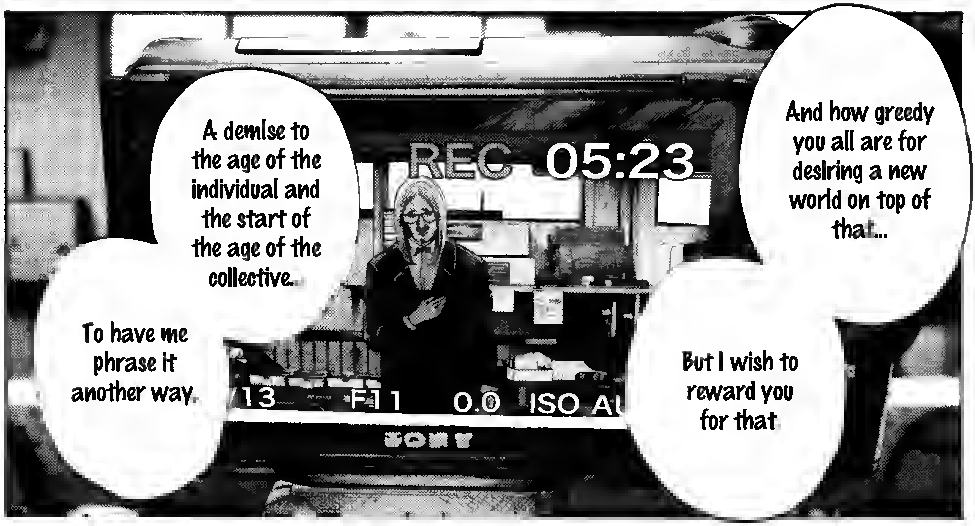
By a button-pushing job
He meant to just turn on the tv for an old lady?
That's all I need to do every morning!

First-Class Wada Akinori
催珠算能力
There's just no way he would pay this much for a job like this,
No matter how much cash he's got to burn.
Wait, wait, wait...

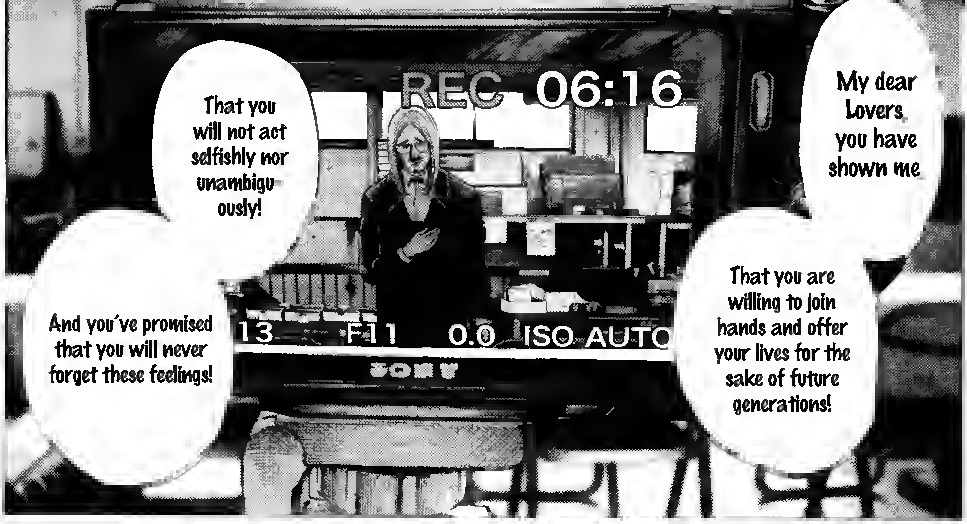
Ah...
Haha...
This is the worst...

CHAPTER 134


The world you see right now,
Is not one that has stagnated or closed,
But one that's fully complete...


REC 05:23
And how greedy you all are for desiring a new world on top of that...
A demise to the age of the individual and the start of the age of the collective...
To have me phrase it another way,
But I wish to reward you for that

REC 05:38
This world right now,
Is reaching its climax!
1/13 F11 0.0 ISO AUTO

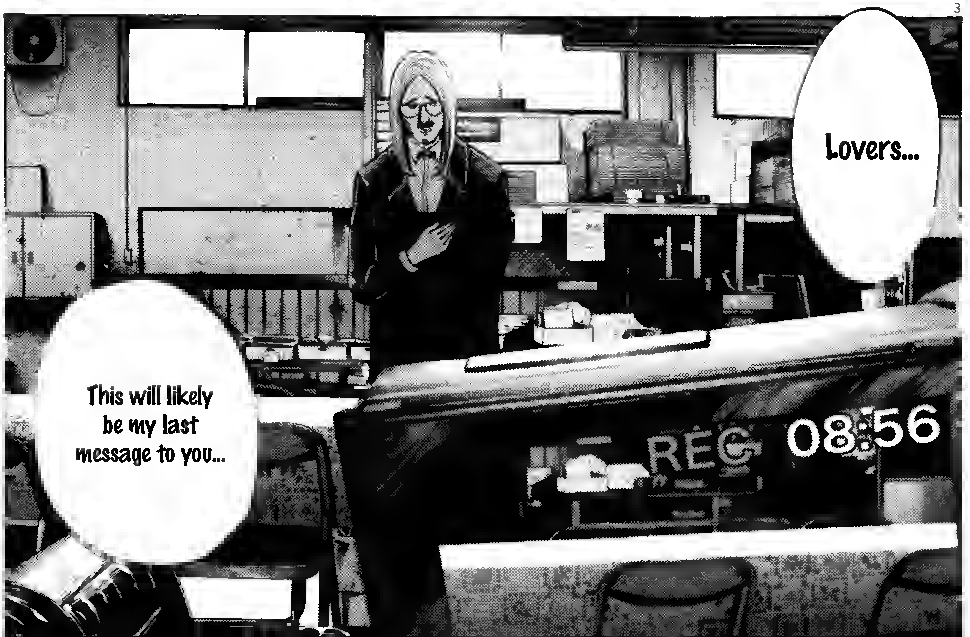

REC 06:16
That you will not act selfishly nor unambiguously!
My dear Lovers, you have shown me
And you've promised that you will never forget these feelings!
That you are willing to join hands and offer your lives for the sake of future generations!
13 F11 0.0 ISO AUTO
SONY

REC 06:44
You've shown me that this world of ours.
Simply put.
Is bound by love!
/13 F11 0.0 ISO AUTO
SONY

REC 07:03
To be honest, even I may not have fully understood this fact yet.
Because I believe you more than I can bear!
But I am moved, nonetheless!
13 F11 0.0 ISO AUTO
SONY

REC 07:51
I have no choice *but* to believe...
Believe...
Yes, I believe...

REC 08:22
I would simply kill all of you.
...But if your convictions were all a lie.


This will likely be my last message to you...
Lovers...
REC 08:56

May we magical warriors ascend to the astral plane and engrave harmony into the Akashik records.
July 7.
At the moment when the Milky Way passes by hope, it would be joyous if you could think of us

Good Vibrations...
A beautiful world for you...

....A toast.
My fellow warriors of the 12 musical scales...
W...
Wait.

WE CAN'T DRINK THIS!
THIS IS... IT'S ALL WRONG!
Sacrificing ourselves for the greater good? This is absurd!
All I wanted was to get along with you all!

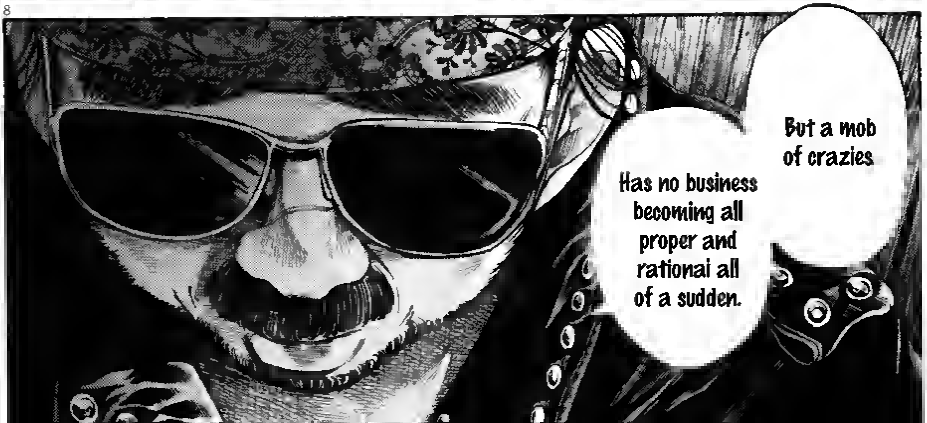
I'm...
I'm also scared...
Stay brave.
Pussy princess! Stop being so spoiled!

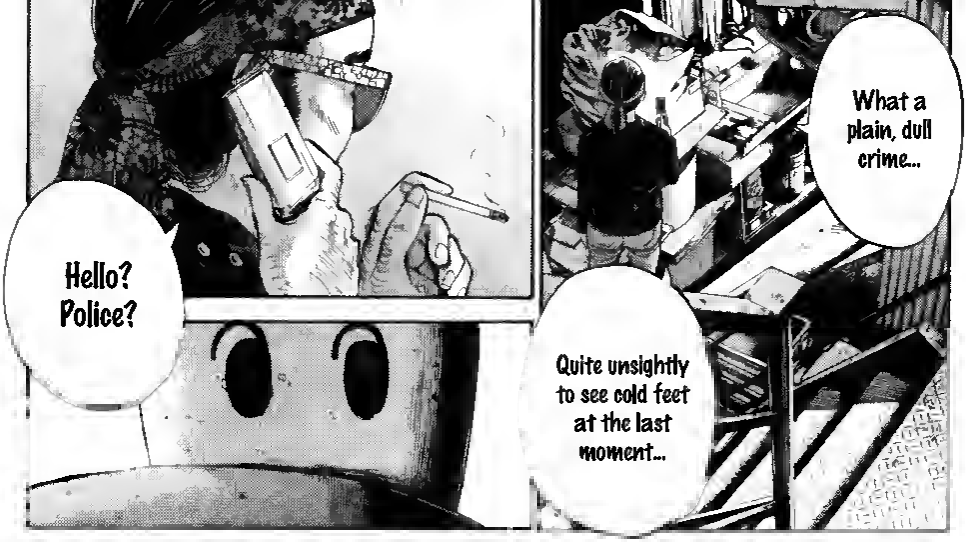
It is true that peer pressure has influenced all of us to some extent...
We should've had a fair discussion about this...
How can you say that now, coward!
....Ok.

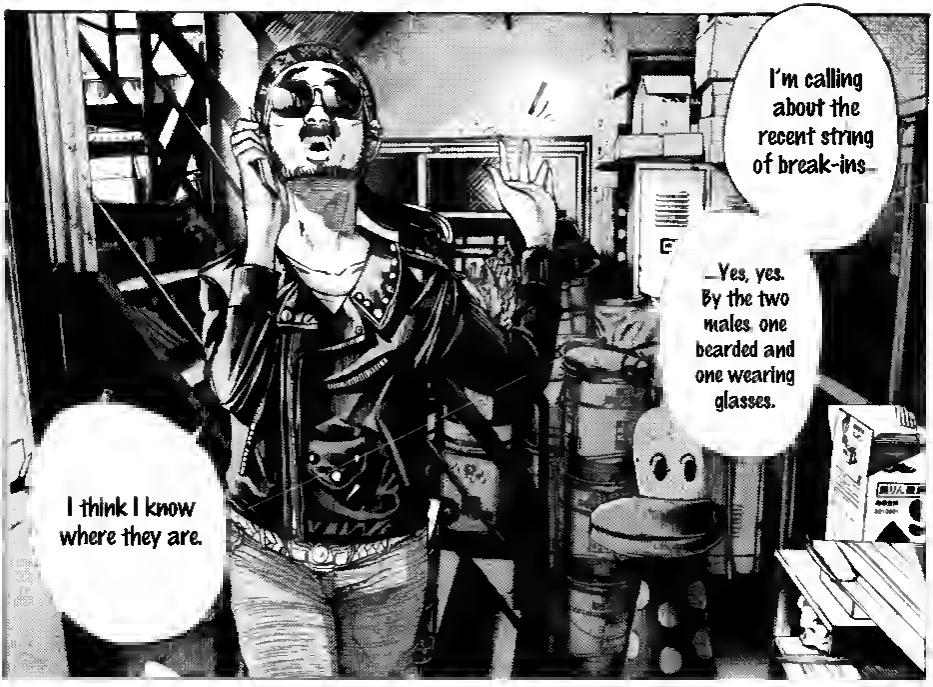
Why don't we have take a breather?
It's important that we should all come to agreement about this.

Oh, how they would be the greatest sensation of this generation had they simply died without suspecting anything...
Well... It's not like this'll really change things in the long run, but...

They're awfully serious, aren't they?
Hmm.
Or perhaps I should say normal


But a mob of crazies
Has no business becoming all proper and rationai all of a sudden.



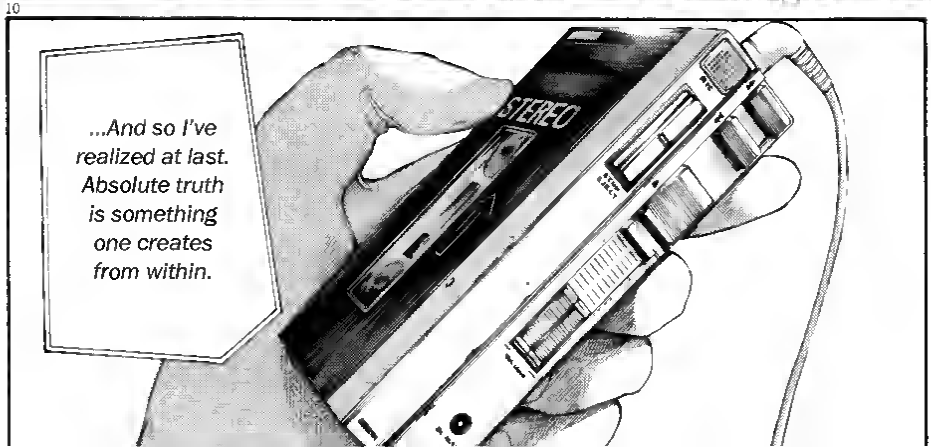

I think I know where they are.
—Yes, yes. By the two males, one bearded and one wearing glasses.
I'm calling about the recent string of break-ins—

Has been my very antithesis since the day we met...

Pegasus, also known as Hoshikawa Toshiki,

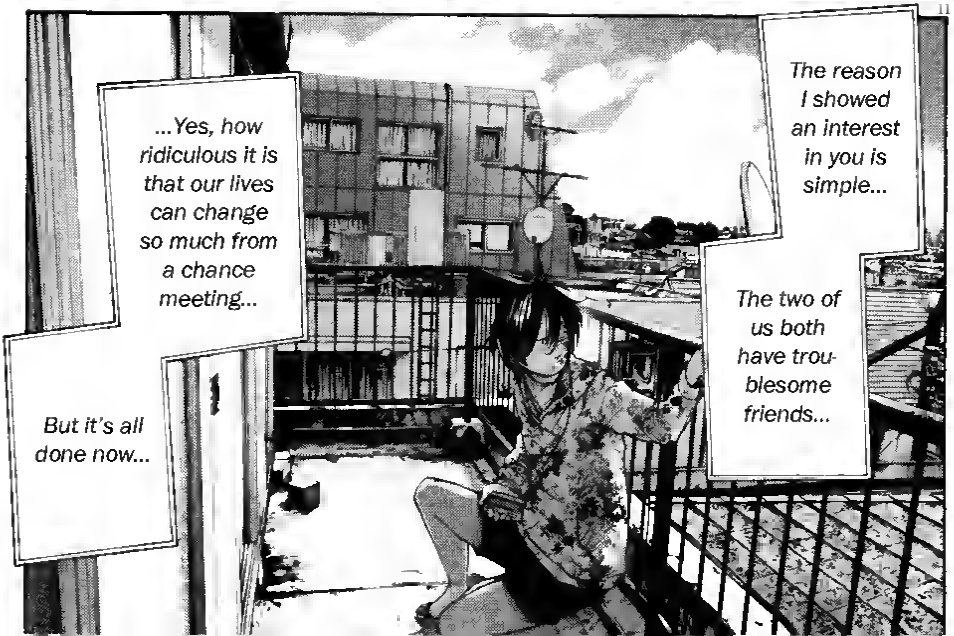
While I lived mocking it and doubting others at every step.
He tried his utmost to believe this moronic world of ours,
I could never clear away my skepticism of the uncertain...

The more you doubt, the more there is to doubt, and the more you seek the truth, the more it becomes obscured...
You see, I am a man possessed by the "absolute."
...But human hearts are anything but absolute.

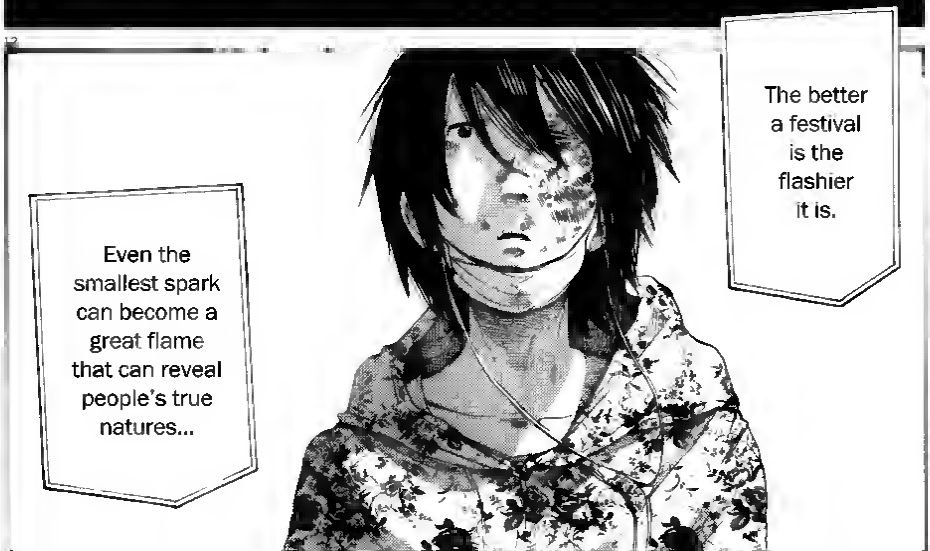

...And so I've realized at last. Absolute truth is something one creates from within.
STEREO

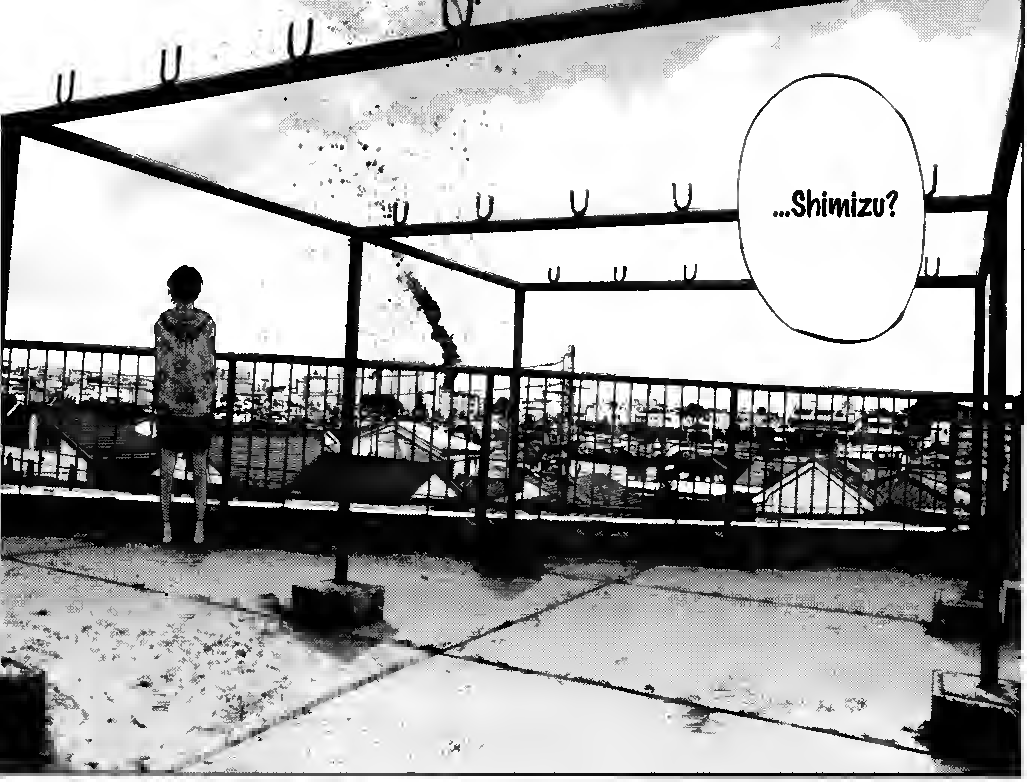
Seki Masuo,
What is it you believe in?

ポン

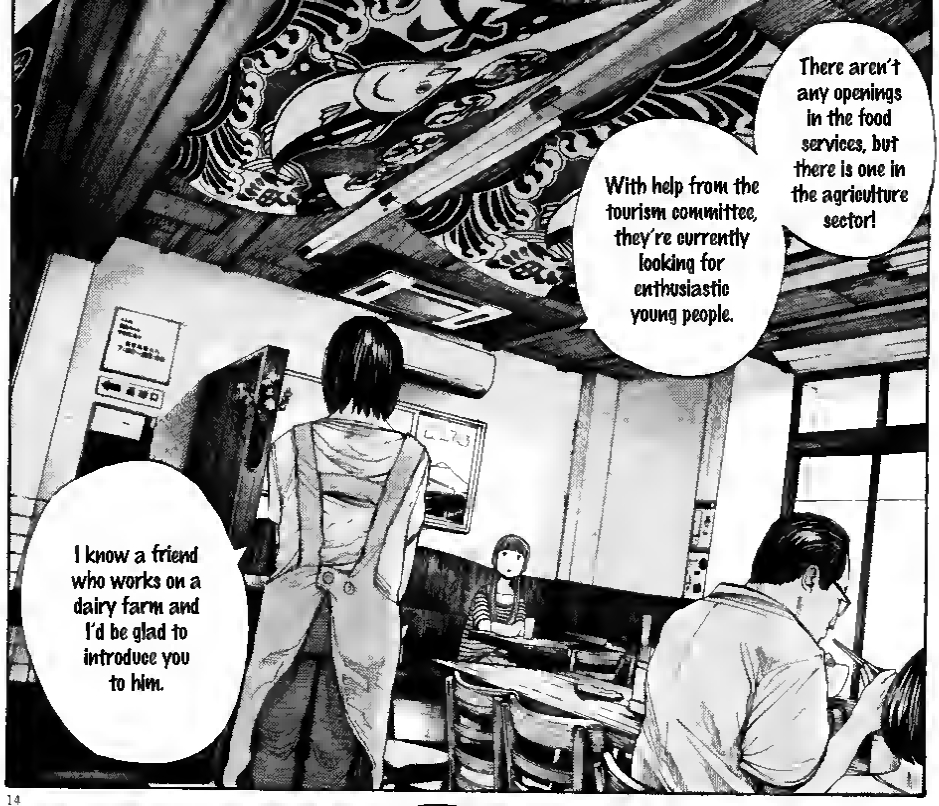

The reason I showed an interest in you is simple...
...Yes, how ridiculous it is that our lives can change so much from a chance meeting...
The two of us both have troublesome friends...
But it's all done now...

June 30, 11:30 a.m.


The better a festival is the flashier it is.
Even the smallest spark can become a great flame that can reveal people's true natures...


...Shimizu?

Excuse me, miss.


There aren't any openings in the food services, but there is one in the agriculture sector!
With help from the tourism committee, they're currently looking for enthusiastic young people.
I know a friend who works on a dairy farm and I'd be glad to introduce you to him.

14

And there's still plenty of rooms left for employee housing.
Sounds just fine if you and your friend wanted to find work, don't you think?

...Really?

Mnnn...

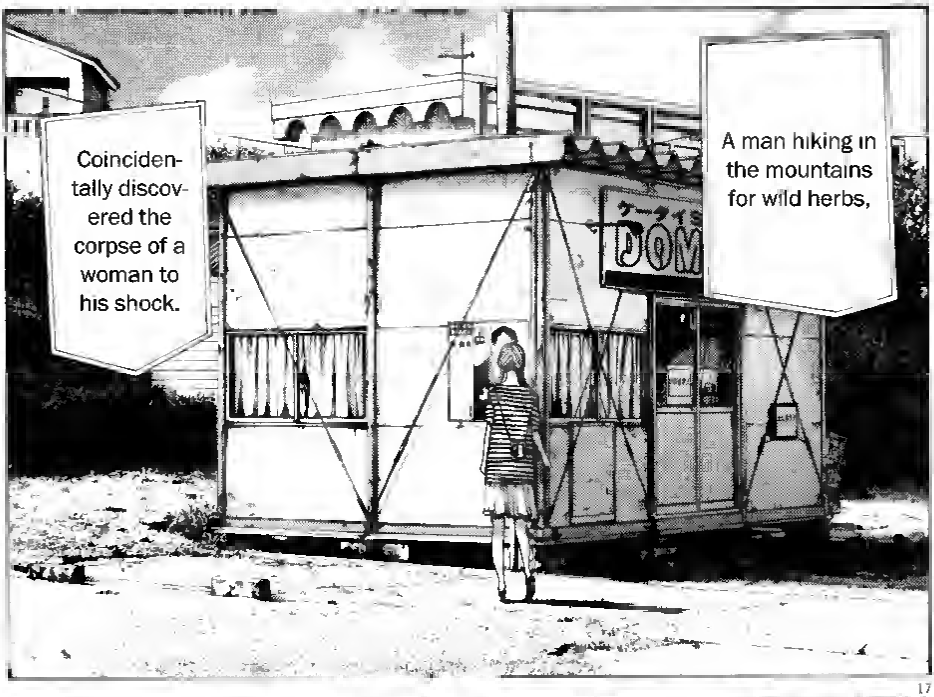
YAAAAAYYY!
センター
岩潮食堂

My apologies sir.
But signing a contract with just an insurance card will not be possible.
And I'm sorry to say our shop does not carry any pre-paid cell phones for crime prevention reasons.

...Oh,
If your friend has a driver's license, then there's no problem at all.
Now, although the phone will be contracted under your friend's name,

Excuse me while I go check up on the stock.
You can get started on filling out these forms for her until she comes.

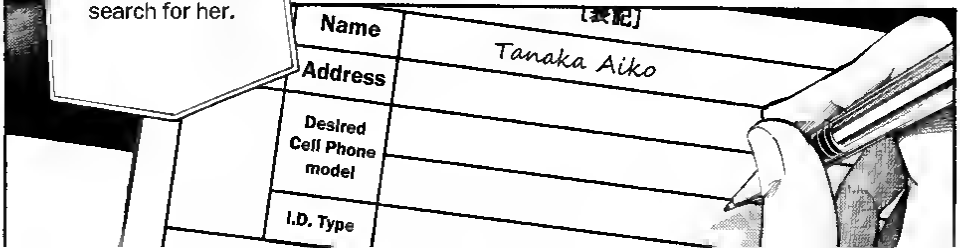
Continuing on with our top stories for the day,
At early dawn yesterday in XXX prefecture,


A man hiking in the mountains for wild herbs,
Coincidentally discovered the corpse of a woman to his shock.

Punpun!

Along with signs of strangulation, there were several stab wounds on her abdominal region, leading police to treat it as a possible murder case.
According to the police, the discovered body is identified as the 41 year-old Tanaka Mitsuko, a resident of XXX city of the Tokyo Metropolitan Area.

And earlier today, the deceased's car was found abandoned in XXX city of Kagoshima prefecture.
In light of the still unknown whereabouts of Tanaka Aiko, the daughter of the deceased,
The police believe finding her will shed much light on the case and have begun their search for her.


Name
Tanaka Aiko
Address
Desired Cell Phone model
I.D. Type

Goodnight Punpun ⑫

Asano Inio

Background Assistants:

Satou Satsuki

Kashiwaba Hiro

Atsumori Ran

Additional Help by:

Kumatsuto

Uehara Yuu

Translated by Hox

Scanned by Anonymous

This winter: the finale.

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